The Bombay Gazette.

No. 7,320.—New Series. BOMBAY :—MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1869. Annual Subscription in Advance... ..Rupees Fifty-two.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

For year in advance delivered in Town	Rs. 52 0
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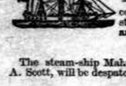
In the Native Languages, double the above.

Domestic Occurrences. Each—Rupee 1.

All Cheques, Money Orders, and other Remittances should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

SHIPPING.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, & CALCUTTA.



THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), under contract with Government, despatch steamers as above with mails, passengers, and cargo, every fourteen days.

The steam-ship Mahratta, 742 Tons, 120 H. P., Commander A. Scott, will be despatched on Tuesday, the 31st August, at noon.

	August.		September.
Leave Bombay	31	Leave Negapatam	10
	Sept.		
„ Carwar	2	„ Pondicherry	11
„ Mangalore	3	„ Madras	13
„ Cannanore	4	„ Coconada	15
„ Calicut	4	„ Vizagapatam	16
„ Beypore	4	„ Bimlipatam	16
„ Cochin	5	„ Gopalpore	17
„ Tuticorin	6	„ False Point	18
„ Colombo	7	Arrives Calcutta	19
„ Galle	8		

This route is the most expeditious and economical for passengers for the Neilgherries district, Bangalore, and Madras, who can land at Calicut for Beypore, and proceed from thence by rail.

Passengers for Calcutta can take the same route picking up the steamer at Madras.

No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF VIA KURRACHEE.

(Interchanging cargo and passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdad, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company.)

THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), under mail contract with Government, will despatch a steamer every 14 days to the Persian Gulf, touching at Kurrachee, Guadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao, and Bussorah.

The steam-ship Abyssinia, 1,129 tons, 200 H. P., Commander J. Tomkinson, will be despatched on Saturday, the 4th September at 4 P. M.

Up.	Sept.	Down.	Sept.
Leave Bombay	4	Leave Bussorah	24
„ Kurrachee	8	„ Fao	24
„ Guadur	12	„ Bushire	26
„ Muscat	12	„ Linga	28
„ Bunder Abbas	14	„ Bunder Abbas	30
„ Linga	15		Oct.
„ Bahrein	16	„ Muscat	2
„ Bushire	18	„ Guadur	4
„ Fao	19	„ Kurrachee	6
Arrive Bussorah	20	Arrive Bombay	10

N.B.—No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE

THE British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited), under mail contract with Government, and in connection with the weekly service from England, despatch a steamer to Kurrachee every Saturday at 4 P. M.

N.B.—No cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM FERRIES (under contract with Government).—Steam Ferry Boats will ply across the Harbour daily, stopping at the undermentioned Bunders:—

Fares from Bombay to	Rewas.	Dhurmtur.	Butchers Island and Oorun.	Oolwa.
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
First Class	2 0	3 0	0 12	3 0
Second Class	0 12	1 0	0 8	0 12
Third Class	0 6	0 8	0 4	0 9

The Dhurumtur Ferry leaves Carnac Bunder daily at 8 A.M., and Dhurumtur at 1 P.M.

The Oolwa Ferry leaves Carnac Bunder daily at 8-30 A.M., and Oolwa at 1 P.M.

Passengers are required to obtain Tickets from the Bunder Clerk previous to proceeding on board.

J. A. SHEPHERD.

Apollo Street, Bombay, 5th November 1867.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST.

Steamers LORD CLYDE, GENERAL HAVELOCK, GENERAL OUTRAM, and TILLY.

ONE of the above Steamers will be despatched every week to and from the Malabar Coast, calling at the intermediate Ports on the following days:—

Down Steamers.		Up Steamers.	
Leave Bombay	Saturday.	Leave Cochin	Sunday.
„ Rutnagherry	Sunday.	„ Beypore	Monday.
„ Malwan	„	„ Calicut	„
„ Vingorla	„	„ Tellicherry	Tuesday.
„ Goa	Monday.	„ Cannanore	„
„ Carwar	„	„ Mangalore	Wednesday
„ Coompta	„	„ Coompta	Thursday.
„ Mangalore	Tuesday.	„ Carwar	„
„ Cannanore	Wednesday.	„ Goa	„
„ Tellicherry	„	„ Vingorla	Friday.
„ Calicut	„	„ Malwan	„
„ Beypore	„	„ Rutnagherry	Saturday.
Arrive Cochin	Thursday.	Arrive Bombay	Sunday.

The Steamer LORD CLYDE, Captain Hewett, will be despatched according to the above table on SATURDAY, the 4th September. For freight and passage apply to

NOWROJEE BHICAJEE, Manager.

No. 6, Borah Bazaar Street, 30th August, 1869.

WEEKLY COMMUNICATION WITH ENGLAND.

On Tuesday, the 31st August, at 3 P.M., from Mazagon.

THE P. & O. Co.'s S. S. SUMATRA, (1,220 tons, and 500 H. P.,) Captain C. A. White, WILL LEAVE FOR SUEZ as above, carrying H.M.'s Mails, also Passengers and Cargo for that Port, Marseilles, Southampton, &c.

Cargo can also be booked through to Trieste, Venice, Genoa, Barcelona and Havre, Liverpool, or London.

No Cargo can be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 11 A.M. on Monday, the 30th instant.

Passengers are requested to send their heavy baggage to Mazagon before 10 A.M. on the day of the Steamer's departure, in order that it may be weighed and labelled previous to shipment.

A small Steamer will leave the new Dock Head at Mazagon for the convenience of Passengers at 3 P.M., precisely, on the day of sailing.

H. S. BOSTOCK, Actg. Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Rampart Row, Bombay,
24th August, 1869.

NOTICE.—Consignees of cargo per ship JORAWUR, arrived from Calcutta, are requested to despatch Boats at once to take delivery, otherwise the same will be landed by the Captain without further notice at the risk and expense of the concerned, as provided in the Bills of Lading.

W. NICOL & Co.,
Agents of ship Jorawur.

Bombay, 28th August, 1869.

NOTICES.

MUSICAL BOXES, JEWELLERY, CLOCKS.—Our stock has been replenished, and offers the most complete assortment desirable.

FAVRE, LEUBA, & Co.

WARRANTED WATCHES.—All Gold and Silver Watches of every description and size manufactured by us, and fitted with the latest improvements, are warranted to purchasers for the term of 1, 2, or 3 years.

FAVRE, LEUBA, & Co.

KEYLESS WATCHES.—For which the undersigned have also obtained the only first class Prize Medal at the Bronch Exhibition. This watch is pronounced by competent judges to be the most practical and best time-keeper ever produced.

FAVRE, LEUBA, & Co.

RS. 50 SILVER WATCH.—The only first class Prize Medal was obtained by the undersigned at the late Bronch Exhibition for this Watch: its durability and excellent way of keeping time cannot be surpassed at the price.

FAVRE, LEUBA, & Co.

T. CHATELAIN MONTANDON.
WATCHMAKER, Jeweller, Optician, and Engraver,

1st and 2nd floor, No. 17 Medow Street.

Sole Agent for H. Grandjean & Co., Locle (SwitzerLand), and London (47 Friday Street). Medals at all the great Exhibitions.

Also Agent for Thevenaz Brothers' (Locle), established in London for the last 30 years.

WATCHES for Ladies and Gentlemen, Gold and Silver Cases, the largest choice now in Bombay.

JEWELLERY, Indian, Paris, Geneva, and German made; also the largest choice in Bombay of Spectacles, steel and tortoiseshell Frames, Opera Glasses, &c.

CLOCKS for Dining Rooms, Offices, and Railway Stations.

MUSICAL BOXES. 100 Musical Boxes to select from.

Terms positively cash.

Repairs of all kinds carefully made.

T. CHATELAIN MONTANDON.

SHIPPING.

OVERLAND FREIGHT ROUTE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL, LONDON, TRIESTE, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, VENICE, NAPLES, LEGHORN, GENOA, BARCELONA, HAVRE, ADEN, AND SUEZ.

THE Bombay and Bengal Steam Ship Company, under arrangements with other first class lines of Steamers from Alexandria, undertake to give through Bills of Lading for Goods via Egypt to the above and most other Continental Ports.

A limited number of passengers can be accommodated.

Rates of Fare.

To Suez—1st class £40, 2nd class £25. } Exclusive
To Trieste—1st class £53, 2nd class £34. } of Wines.

Steamers will leave Bombay every four weeks.

For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. Stephen, Kennard & Co., London; Messrs. Tod, Kennard & Co., Liverpool; Messrs. Tod, Rathborne & Co., Alexandria; Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company, Trieste and Venice; Messrs. Fraissinet Pere et Fils, Marseilles; and Messrs. R. Rubattino and Co., Genoa; or to the undersigned in Bombay.

The s. s. MAGDALA, 2,200 Tons, Captain Thomson, will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 15th September.

STEARNS, HOBART, & Co.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Will be Published early To-morrow Morning.

BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND SUMMARY.

The Bombay Gazette Overland Summary, prepared for despatch by each Overland Mail for Europe, contains, in addition to all the News of the Week, a specially-written Market and Freight Report, and a well-digested Summary of Events.

Annual Subscription (in advance) Rs. 12
Single Copy ..... Annas 4

"Bombay Gazette" Office, Medow Street, Fort.

Will be Published To-morrow Morning.

THE BOMBAY PRICE CURRENT AND SUMMARY OF TRADE,

Published once a fortnight at the *Bombay Gazette* Office, on the departure of every alternate Mail for Europe.

The Bombay Price Current contains:—

A Specially-Written Market Report.
Freight Report, with statement of Ships chartered, &c.
Export Manifests of Vessels which have sailed during the Fortnight.
Quotations of Imports and Exports, and Customs' Duties.
Comparative Summary of Exports from Bombay, up to date, as per Ships' Manifests, with the total Exports for the three months, and for the same period as far back as 1858.
Comparative Summaries of Imports of Piece Goods and of Yarns into Bombay from Great Britain up to date, with the total for the three months and the same period as far back as 1860 and 1859 respectively.
Share List and Rates of Exchange.
List of Vessels in Bombay Harbour on the date of publication, and of arrivals and departures of Vessels during the fortnight.

Annual Subscription (in advance).....Rs. 10
Single Copy..... Annas 8
"Bombay Gazette" Office, Medow Street, Fort.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE KATTYWAR COAST.

STEAMER GENERAL OUTRAM, Captain Teasdale, will be despatched on WEDNESDAY next, the 1st September, should inducement offer, to Cutch Mandvee, calling at Veravul and Porebunder; leaving Cutch Mandvee on her return on Monday, the 6th, calling at the above Ports. For Freight and Passage apply to

NOWROJEE BHICAJEE, Manager.

No. 6, Borah Bazaar Street, Bombay, 30th August, 1869.

BOMBAY COAST and RIVER STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (Limited)—IN LIQUIDATION.

The General Meeting of Shareholders of this Company, called by Advertisement in the "Government Gazette," and other Bombay Newspapers under date of the 29th ultimo, for the purpose of having the Liquidators' Account laid before them, WILL BE HELD THIS DAY at noon precisely.

JOHN DIXON,
JOHN L. SCOTT, } Liquidators.

Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, 30th August, 1869.

APPLICATION for the GRANT of LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION of the ESTATE and EFFECTS of the late SHAIK MAHOMED BIN SHAIK ABDULLA GEERAY having been made to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay by Fuckeer Sah bin Meyen Sah Geeray and Mahomed Ebrahim bin Shaik Husson Geeray, all persons concerned therein are hereby apprized thereof.—Dated this 28th day of August, 1869.

C. TYEBJEE, Applicant's Proctor.

NOTICE of REMOVAL.—Mr. J. NEUBERG has REMOVED from No. 6 Hummum Street, to No. 9 Hummum Street, next door to CHESSON and WOODHALL.

MR. A. MENIST, (OPTICIAN), Will be in Poona on and after the 7th September, and will return to Bombay in October.

NOTICE.—Mr. DHUNJEEBHOY EDULJEE KHAMBATA is AUTHORIZED to SIGN our Firm per procuration. H. M. CAMAJEE'S SONS.

Bombay, 30th August, 1869.

AUCTION SALE of LANDED PROPERTY at NEW TOWN HOOZRIA STREET.

On WEDNESDAY, the 15th September, at 4 P.M., Messrs. HEERALALL & Co. will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION on the premises, in pursuance of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the 14th day of September, 1868, by order of the Mortgagee, on account and risk of Hajee Yacoob Moorgay, the Mortgagor—All that piece or parcel of Government Land or Ground, together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house, situate, lying, and being without the Fort of Bombay, at New Town, fronting on the west side of Hoozria Street, in the sub-district of Mazagon, registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 1,298, assessed by the Collector of Assessment under No. 2, containing by admeasurement 121 2.9 square yards or thereabouts, and bounded as follows:—On or towards the east by the sweepers' passage, on or towards the west by the said Hoozria Street, on or towards the north by the house of Alli Sab Pagurkur, on or towards the south by the house of Shaikjeebhoy Biscuitwalla.

For further particulars apply at the office of the undersigned, 9, Hummum Street, Fort. HEERALALL & Co.

NOTICES.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.
The best remedy for
Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion; and the best mild aperient for delicate constitutions, especially adapted for Ladies, Children, and Infants, and for regular use in Warm Climates.
Dinneford & Co., Chemists, London, and of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
N.B.—Ask for Dinneford's Magnesia.
Agents—Treacher & Co., Bombay, Poonah, and Byculla.

HEAL and SONS, IRON AND BRASS BEDSTEADS, for all parts of the world.
SOLID MAHOGANY
BED ROOM FURNITURE,
Entirely free from Veneer, very suitable for extreme climates.
HORSEHAIR AND SPRING MATTRESSES,
and every Description of Bedding for India and the Colonies.
ILLUSTRATED CATLOGUE,
Of the above goods sent free by post to every part of the world to which there is Book Post.
HEAL AND SON.
196, 197, and 198, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.
** Remittances and Orders must be made payable in London.

THE ROYAL VISIT.—SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO INDIAN SPORTSMEN.

Mr. J. D. DOUGALL,
GUN AND RIFLE MANUFACTURER,
St. James's Street, London,

Desires to bring into special notice the fact of his having had the sole charge of the equipment of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, for his present voyage and visit to India.

The unrivalled skill of the Advertiser in adapting Rifles and Shells of his own invention to Indian requirements, &c., &c., having obtained for him the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, he now announces that all Indian orders are executed with the same care and fidelity as for the Royal Family.

Drawings, Prices, &c., &c., post free on application.

PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c., FREE FROM ADULTERATION,
MANUFACTURED BY
CROSSE AND BLACKWELL,
Purveyors to the Queen,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
well known Manufactures are obtainable from every respectable Provision Dealer in the World.

Purchasers should see that they are supplied with C. and B.'s genuine goods, and that inferior articles are not substituted for them.

To insure thorough wholesomeness, their Pickles are all prepared in Pure Malt Vinegar, boiled in Oak Vats, by means of Platinum Steam Coils; and are precisely similar in quality to those supplied by them for use at

HER MAJESTY'S TABLE.

C. and B. are Agents for Lea and Perrins' Celebrated Worcestershire Sauce, and are Manufacturers of every description of Oilmen's Stores of the highest quality.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION.
THE BOXER CARTRIDGES
For Snider-Enfield of .577 bore, and for the Henry, and Martini-Henry Rifles of .450 bore, adopted by Her Majesty's War Department, also of .500 bore for Military Rifles.

WATERPROOF CENTRAL-FIRE METALLIC CARTRIDGES with enlarged Base for small bores, adopted by foreign governments for souverted-Chassepot, Berdan, Remington, and other Rifles; also Cartridges for Ballard, the Spencer, and American Henry Repeating Rifles.

The "ELEY BOXER" are the cheapest Cartridges known, carrying their own ignition, and being made wholly of metal, are waterproof and imperishable in any climate.

The above Cartridge cases (empty) of all sizes, and for the different systems of Breech-loading Rifles, can be had with of without the suitable Bullets and Machines for finishing the Cartridges.

BOXER CARTRIDGES of .450 bore for Revolving Pistols, used in Her Majesty's Navy.

COPPER RIM-FIRE CARTRIDGES of all sizes, for Smith & Wesson's, Tranter's, and other Pocket Revolvers.

PIN-CARTRIDGES for Lefaucheux Revolvers of 12-m/. 9-m/ and 7-m/. bore.

CENTRAL-FIRE and PIN-FIRE CARTRIDGES for all sizes and systems of Guns, Rifles, and Revolvers.

Double Waterproof and E. B. Caps, Patent Wire Cartridges, Felt Gun Waddings for Breech and Muzzle Loaders, and every description of Sporting and Military Ammunition.

ELEY BROTHERS,
GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON.
WHOLESALE ONLY

NOTICES.

EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—The above Society issues Policies of Assurance on the lives of Naval and Military Officers, when not at sea nor engaged in active service, at the same rates of premium as are charged to Civilians.

THE ALLIANCE SPINNING COMPANY (Limited).—NOTICE is hereby given, that a DIVIDEND, at the rate of NINETY (90) RUPEES per share, for the half-year ending 30th June, 1869, will be paid (to the Registered Shareholders on the 20th instant) at the Office of the Company, No. 1 Church Street, between the hours of 12 and 3 P.M. Share Certificates are required to be produced on payment.

SHAVUKSHA DHUNJEEBHOY, Secretary.

Bombay, 26th August, 1869.

NOTICE—THE ALBERT LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY having SUSPENDED PAYMENT in accordance with a Telegram received from Head Office, London, PREMIA payable at this Branch will still CONTINUE to be RECEIVED by the undersigned, on behalf of the Provisional Liquidator authorized by the Court of Chancery to receive the same, but such Premia will be returned on 1st January 1870 should re-construction or arrangements with another Company be not carried out.

By order of Directors,
D. McL. SLATER, Secretary,
For Provisional Liquidator.

Bombay, 19th August, 1869.

NOTICE is hereby given, that an ADJOURNED MEETING of the Shareholders of the COLABA PRESS COMPANY (Limited) will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, Elphinstone Circle, on SATURDAY, the 4th of September next, at 4 o'clock P.M., to consider the business left undisposed of at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of 27th instant.

By order of the Directors,
For the London, Asiatic, and American Company (Limited),
CHARLES E. BENN, Joint Manager,
Secretaries

Bombay, 27th August, 1869.

NOTICE.—PORT CANNING LAND, INVESTMENT, RECLAMATION and DOCK COMPANY (Limited).—At a Meeting of Directors, held on the 31st July 1869, it was resolved that in terms of clause 14 of the Articles of Association a CALL of Rs. 100 per share be made payable on the 1st day of September next at Calcutta and Bombay.

In conformity with the foregoing Resolution, Notice is hereby given, that a CALL of RUPEES ONE HUNDRED PER SHARE is made. Shareholders on the Calcutta Register are to pay the amount of the said Call on their respective shares into the National Bank of India, Limited, at Calcutta, on the 1st day of September next, and Shareholders on the Bombay Register are to pay the amount of the said Call on their respective shares into the same Bank at Bombay on the same day.

The Bank's Receipt should be presented at the Registered Offices in Calcutta and Bombay respectively, with the Share Certificates, for the enfacement thereon, of the payment of the Call.

ROSE & Co.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

Calcutta, 31st July, 1869.

MAZAGON LAND and RECLAMATION COMPANY (Limited).—NOTICE is hereby given, that the FOURTH ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders will be held in the Registered Office of the Company, in Elphinstone Circle, on MONDAY, the 30th day of August, 1869, at 11 o'clock, for the following purposes:—

To receive Accounts to 30th June, 1869.
To receive Directors' Report.
To elect Directors for the ensuing year.
To elect Auditors for ensuing year, and to fix their remuneration.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from the 20th to the 30th August, instant, both days inclusive.

By order of the Directors,
RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.,
Secretaries & Treasurers.

Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, 9th August, 1869.

IN CHANCERY.—ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—NOTICE is hereby given, that a FOURTH DIVIDEND, at the rate of One Shilling in the Pound sterling, WILL BE PAYABLE on and after THURSDAY, 26th August, to Creditors whose Claims have been admitted by the Court.

For the Official Liquidator,
WILL. STEEL.

Elphinstone Circle, 23rd August, 1869.

TENDERS will be received for the supply of ASHLAR STONES for the APOLLO PIER EXTENSION WORKS up to 12 A.M. on the 3rd September next.

Full particulars can be obtained on application at the Office of the Executive Engineer for Reclamations, Esplanade Pendalls.

Tenders should be addressed outside "Tender for Stone for Apollo Pier Works."

F. DRESSER, C. E., Asst. Engr. for Reclamations,
In charge Apollo Pier Extension Works.

NOTICE.—The GOVERNMENT FOREST RIGHTS in all Mahalkic Nos. of the Cullian Talooka will be submitted to SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION, at Cullian, on MONDAY, the 27th September, 1869, at 2-30 P.M.

The Wood to be sold comprises Teak Rafters, &c., and offers inducements to dealers in firewood.

Particulars as to the average amount of Wood, &c., for sale can be had on application at the Collector's Office, Tanna.

J. W. ROBERTSON,
Acting Collector.

Tanna Collector's Office, 5th August, 1869.

NATIONAL BANK of INDIA (Limited).
Bombay Agency.

The following are the Bank's drawing rates for the Outgoing Mail:—

On London at 6 months' sight 1/11 ½ per Rupee.
„ „ 4 do. 1/11 ½ „
„ „ 3 do. 1/11 7/16 „
„ „ 2 do. 1/11 ½ „
„ „ 1 do. 1/11 9/16 „
„ Demand 1/11 ½ „
On Scotland and Ireland 1/11 3/16 „

JAMES WINDRAM, Manager.

National Bank of India, Bombay, 26th August, 1869.

IN the HIGH COURT of JUDICATURE at BOMBAY.—Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction.

In the matters of Act XXVIII. of 1865 of the Legislative Council of India and of the Estate of Cursetjee Furdoonjee.

NOTICE is hereby given, that by an order dated the 27th day of August, 1869, made by the Honourable Sir Charles Sargent, it was ordered that the abovenamed Cursetjee Furdoonjee be discharged under Sections 23 and 24 of Act XXVIII. of 1865, unless good and sufficient cause be shown to the contrary on THURSDAY, the 23rd day of September, 1869, at 10-30 of the clock in the forenoon, before the sitting Judge in Chambers in the High Court.—Dated this 27th day of August, 1869.

KEIR, PRESCOT and WINTER,
Attorneys for Cursetjee Furdoonjee.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.—TENDERS are invited for the SUPPLY, by small Contracts, of ARCH STONES for Bridges and Culverts on the South East Extension of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

Conditions of Contracts, forms of Tenders, and description of Stone, &c., may be learned by applying at the Resident Engineers' Office, Poona.

Tenders will be received at the Agent's Office in Bombay up to 20th September next.

The undersigned does not pledge himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

H. P. LeMESURIER, Acting Agent.

Company's Offices, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, 25th Aug. 1869

NOTICE.—SEALED TENDERS will be received at the Office of the undersigned up to 2 P.M. on TUESDAY, the 31st instant, from parties willing to undertake the work of erecting certain Buildings within the Burial Ground Compound at Sewree.

The Plan and Specifications of the works can be seen and other particulars learnt on application during Office hours.

No reasons will be assigned for the rejection of the lowest or any tender.

Tenders are to be made on printed forms only, which will be supplied from this office.

KALIANDAS MUNCHARAM,
Executive Engineer, Presidency.

Office of Ex. Engineer, Presidency, Bombay, 27th Aug., 1869.

NOTICE.—SEALED TENDERS will be received up to 1 o'clock P.M., of MONDAY the 6th September of Two Hundred Hogsheads of PROVISIONS, MARINE STORES, &c., for the Departments of HARBOUR and PILOTAGE BOARD.

Tenders to be superscribed "Tenders for Provisions, &c."

Tenders will not be received after the hour named.

Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of 10 per cent. in cash on the quantity tendered. A further deposit of 20 per cent. will be required on the Tender being accepted.

Provisions, Stores, &c., will be required to be delivered at the Lighthouse, Signal Station, Master Attendant's Office, or as directed.

Provisions, Stores, &c., will have to be supplied in instalments, as required by the Indenting Officers.

Estimated schedule of articles and quantities can be seen on application at the office of the undersigned; but the Board will take only such quantities as they may require.

Forms of Tenders and other information can be obtained at the office of the undersigned on application.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Nor reason will be assigned for the rejection of any Tender.

Separate Tenders will also be received up to the above date for the supply of Coal on similar conditions. Tenders should be superscribed "Tenders for Coal."

SAMUEL A. GLIDDON,
Acting Secretary.

Harbour and Pilotage Board, Bombay, 19th August, 1869.

MR. THOMAS EDWARD DE CRUZ, LAW STATIONER,

Begs to inform the Gentlemen of the legal profession that he has OPENED a LAW STATIONER'S OFFICE in Bombay Green, opposite the New Bank of Bombay.

All descriptions of Writing work undertaken, on highly favourable terms, and the system on which he has made arrangements to execute all work entrusted to him, will not fail to ensure thorough and general satisfaction, either as regards neatness, correctness, expedition, or style of Calligraphy, which last will assimilate as closely as possible to that adopted by Law Stationer's in England.

Office, Bombay Green, opposite the New Bank of Bombay.

MR. THOMAS EDWARD DE CRUZ,
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

All descriptions of COMMISSION AGENCY BUSINESS undertaken on highly favourable terms, such as shipping, landing, clearing, purchasing, selling, and forwarding goods, &c., &c; giving strangers and travellers all possible information in regard to the country, the prices of articles, and securing house accommodation. The field embraced by the Agency is a diversified one.

Up-country orders accompanied with a remittance or reference in Bombay promptly attended to.

Full particulars can be ascertained on application to the office.

Office, Bombay Green, opposite the New Bank of Bombay

REGISTRY OFFICE FOR DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS, of all sorts and grades, will be SUPPLIED at the shortest notice.

Satisfactory and efficient arrangements have been made to secure the confidence of the public in every respect.

THOMAS EDWARD DE CRUZ,
Registrar of Domestic Servants.

Office, Bombay Green, opposite the New Bank of Bombay.

NOTICE.—The undersigned have this day commenced business here as SAIL MAKERS, Ship Riggers, Ship Carpenters, Caulkers, Painters, Boat Builders, Repairers, and General Contractors.

They will also undertake to supply Batta Lascars, Carpenters, Sailmakers, Riggers, Caulkers, Painters, &c., for jobbing work.

Full particulars can be ascertained on application to their office. DE CRUZ, DE SILVA, & Co.,
General Contractors.

Office, Bombay Green, opposite the New Bank of Bombay.

TWENTY-SEVENTH EDITION.

ROGET'S THESAURUS of English Words and Phrases, classified and arranged so as to facilitate the expression of Ideas and assist in Literary Composition.

Rs. 6-12, free by post Rs. 7-8.

THACKER, VINING, & Co.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEER, &c.

CUTLER, PALMER, & Co.,
WINE MERCHANTS
TO
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
AND
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

DEAN LANE—BOMBAY.
Established in Bombay in the Year 1842,
and in London and Bordeaux 1815.

LONDON HOUSES	Wholesale and for Export only—Tower Bonded Vaults, Retail—Charing Cross Railway Arches.
BORDEAUX HOUSE	Wholesale and for Export—Place du Champ de Mars.

REPRESENTATIVES IN

China,	Colombo,	New Zealand,	
Calcutta,	Kurrachee,	Manilla,	
Madras,	New York,	New Orleans.	

WE respectfully solicit a continuance of the commands of Messrs. General Merchants, and European Residents of Western India, to whom, from the extensive nature of our business, we can offer better terms and better value than any other House in Bombay.

Being Importers on the London and Bordeaux Markets, we are, of necessity, in the most favourable position to supply the public with genuine Wines and Spirits on favourable terms, and from our experience, derived from over fifty years' trading in them, we confidently assert our ability to please all tastes, and we solicit comparison with competitors' Brands at our quotations.

We subjoin our LIST OF SELECTED WINES for this market, and beg to intimate—

1st. That we cannot execute orders for less than 1 dozen quarts, or 2 dozen pints of either one of them, Liqueurs excepted: these in not less quantities than ½ dozen pints or quarts.

2nd. That our Wines and Spirits are procurable from every respectable General Shopkeeper in Bombay and at Out-stations; they, however, fix their own selling prices for them.

3rd. That our quotations are for delivery from our Godowns, where full examination of all Still Wines prior to delivery is allowed, but we do not take the risk of subsequent breakage.

4th. That our advertised quotations for all Sparkling Wines do not provide for the rejection of ullaged or broken bottles likely to be found in Cases, on arrival, after a long sea voyage. We guarantee each Case to contain its full complement of sound Bottles at time of Shipment, but cannot guarantee loss arising from atmospheric or climatic influences; we take this risk by adding Rs. 4 per dozen quarts, and Rs. 2½ per dozen pints to our quotations.

Our Sparkling Wines are not to be equalled at our quotations; we invite comparison.

CLARETS.
(Our own Brand and Shipping.)

	Qts. per doz.	Pts. per doz.
A 1—Chateau Latour or Mouton. Gold Capsule, Labelled & Branded	Rs. 30	Rs. 16
Chateau Rauzan, Black capsule,	„ 25	„ 14
Chateau Leoville, Blue capsule,	„ 22	„ 12
Chateau Palmer, Blue capsule,	„ 22	„ —
Chateau Larose, Yellow capsule,	„ 18	„ 10
St. Julien, Green capsule,	„ 17	„ 10
Medoc, Red capsule,	„ 15	„ 9
Medoc, White capsule,	„ 13	„ —
Sauterne, Red capsule,	„ 22	„ —

BURGUNDIES—RED AND WHITE.
(Very Choice—Our own Brand and Shipping.)

Chambertin, Labelled and Branded	Rs. 32 0 Rs. 17 0
Nuits, ditto	„ 26 0
Macon, ditto	„ 21 0
Chablis, ditto	„ 22 0

CHAMPAGNES.
The finest DRY CHAMPAGNES that can be shipped.
(Our own Brand and Shipping.)

Magnums, Finest Dry	Labelled Rs. 74 0
Finest Dry Sparkling, Gold Foil, Labelled and Branded	„ 36 0 Rs. 19 8
Fine Sparkling, Silver Foil	„ 32 0 „ 17 8
Good Sparkling, Silver Foil for Ball purposes	„ 27 0 „ 14 8

GERMAN WINES.
(Our own Brand and Shipping.)

Nonpareil Sparkling Hock and Moselle, Gold foil, Labelled and Branded	Rs. 36 to 19 8
Sparkling Hock and Muscatel Moselle, Silver foil	„ 32 „ 17
Moselle, Still, Marcobrunner	„ 34 „ —
„ Braunsberger	„ 25 „ —
Hock, „ Johannisberger	„ 42 „ —
„ „ Forster Thanisen	„ 34 „ —
„ „ Rudesheimer	„ 26 „ —
„ „ Hochheimer	„ 23 „ —

SHERRIES.
Specially selected for tropical consumption.
(Our own Brand.)

Amontillado, very choice and superior	Rs. 32 0
Amoroso, very choice, full flavored, soft, pale	„ 28 0
Sherry, Gravel seal, full bodied, light gold colour, nutty and dry	„ 22 0
do. Blue seal, very pale and dry and delicate	„ 22 0
do. Brown seal, pale dry and delicate	„ 22 0
do. Yellow seal, pale and dry, an excellent Dinner Wine	„ 18 8
do. White seal, ordinary Dinner Wine	„ 15 0
Marsala, Virgin Pale	„ 15 0
Madeira, East India (one voyage) very choice	„ 33 0

PORTS.
(Our own Brand.)

	Qts.	Pts.
A 1 Gold seal, an Invalid's Wine, full and fruity. Trade mark	Rs. 30	0
Black seal, a Dessert Wine—mature	„ 24	8 14 0
Red seal—a good quality Wine	„ 18	0

SPIRITS.

The undermentioned Spirits of our own Shipping and Brand are protected by Patent Trade Mark Capsules and Labels. These Labels were in shape (Heart shape) originated by us in 1862, and have since been continuously affixed to all Bottles containing our well-known Cognacs. Some of our competitors have recently introduced totally distinct quality Cognacs with same shaped Labels and distinguishing Seals. Healthy competition we invite, but fraudulent imitations we think it right to expose:—

Cognac, superior, very Old Pale Black it right to expose	Rs. 32
Cognac, superior, Old Pale Yellow capsule	„ 28
Cognac, Pale, White capsule	„ 25
Rum, Superior Old Jamaica, 1st quality Do.	„ 22
Gin, London Old Tom, 1st quality Do.	„ 21
Whisky, 1st quality, Irish Do.	„ 23
„ Scotch Do.	„ 21
Geneva, in flasks (1 dozen in a case) Do.	„ 21

LIQUEURS,
OF THE BEST MANUFACT

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHARE MARKET.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

THE settlement of time-bargain transactions is still going on,—no other business doing.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Number of Shares.	Nomi. value of sh.	Paid up.	Last dividend.	Names.	Cash Rates per Share.
-	Rs.	Rs.	p. a.		
100,00	100	all	10 p.ct.	Agra Bank	par.
22,000	1,000	all	8 p.ct.	Bank of Bengal	1675
10,000	500	all	6 p.ct.	Ditto of Bombay New	595
10,000	500	100		Ditto 2nd Res. Issue	192½
5,250	1,000	all	12 p.ct.	Ditto of Madras	1,600
30,00	250	all	6 p.ct.	Chartered Mercantile Bk. of L. & China	225
4,000	200	all	6 do.	Chartered Bk. of L. & C.	210
13,515	50	250	5 do.	Delhi and London	200
37,496	25	125	8 do.	National Bank of India	143
60,000	250	all	12 do.	Oriental Bank	425

LAND COMPANIES.

4,000	5,000	all	Rs. 65	Colaba Land Co.	1615
10,800	1,000	all	Rs. 30	Elphinstone Land	690
10,800	1,000	650	11-14	Do. New	635
18,000	150	all	Nil	Frere Land & Pier Co. Ld	205
2,000	5,000	4,100	Nil	Mazagon Land	1195
60,000	2,000	1,000	Nil	Port Canning For cash.	290

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

400	2,000	1,700	50	Albert Mills Co. 875
500	2,500	all	80	Alliance Spinning 1,725
100	5,500	all	...	Bombay 2,900
200	1,500	all	10 p.c.	Bombay United 785
800	500	all	12 p.c.	Broach Mills 205
300	5,000	all	...	Coasts Spinning 1,925
750	2,000	all	30%	Great Eastern 1500
2,500	1,000	all	50	Manockji Petit's 890
800	2,500	all	...	Oriental 1275
600	2,500	2,300	...	Royal 1,400

SHIPPING COMPANY.

1,000 | 5,000 | 3,500 | 1,300 | Bombay Ship Co. ..... | 1,290

PRESS COMPANIES.

150	5,000	2,850	35 p.c.	Akbar Cotton Press Co.	2,300
200	2,000	1,100	200 p.c.	Albert Co. Kurrachee	875
250	2,000	850	200 do.	Alexandra Press Co.	640
	12,000	11,000	1750 p.c.	Apollo Press Co.	10,000
200	2,000	all	400 do.	Bombay Press Co.	2,325
200	500	all	100 do.	New	580
500	1,800	all	100 do.	Colaba Press Co.	11,400
350	2,000	all	...	East India Press Co	1,300
150	8,500	all	1000 p.c.	Fort Press Co.	10,000
200	2,000	1,800	100 p.c.	Framji Cowasji Press	1,325
200	6,000	all	425 p.c.	Hydraulic Press Co.	3,550
200	5,000	2,000	...	Kurrachee Press Co.	1,000
2,500	1,000	500	...	Mofus. Press & G. Co.	320
120	2,500	all	350*	Prince of Wales Press	2,500
225	2,000	750	...	Victoria Press, Madras	1,350
150	2,000	all	...	Timeevelly Press Co.	1,700

(* Per share for the half-year.)

CALCUTTA.—24TH AUGUST, 1869.

The following transactions were reported to-day:—

—In Government Securities:—

4 per cents. at Rs. 94-4, 94-6 and 94-8, or 5-12, 5-10 and 5-8 discount.

5 per cents. of 1856-57, at Rs. 106-1½.

5½ per cents. at Rs. 113-7, 113-8 and 113-10.

15 years' Debentures at 107-12.

—In Shares:—

Bank of Bengal shares, at Rs. 1,570 and 2 at Rs. 1,575.

East Indian Railway Stock, £500, at Rs. 240 per £20.

Equitable Coal Co.'s shares, at Rs. 187½ and 190.

Goocery Cotton Mills Co.'s shares, at Rs. 190, exclusive of the dividend.

Indis General Steam Navigation Co.'s shares, at Rs. 480 per full share, and Rs. 240 per half share.

Port Canning Land Investment, &c., Co.'s shares, at Rs. 262½, 270, 272½, 275, 277½, and closed at Rs. 280; only among Calcutta speculators.—*Englishman.*

MILITARY.

DEPARTURES.—AUGUST 28.

Malcolmson, Captain, 30th Regiment, on duty, to Deolalee.

Foss, Deputy Inspector General, B. M. S., on duty, to Ahmedabad.

POONA DIVISION ORDERS.

By Major-General the Honourable A. H. Gordon, C. B., Commanding P. D. A.

Poona, 24th August 1869.

The undermentioned Officer has obtained leave:—

Captain Stack, 3rd Light Cavalry, for 5 days, in extension, on privilege leave.

On the recommendation of the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals B. T., Staff Assistant Surgeon Williamson, at present on general duty at Ahmednugger, is directed to return to Poona, for duty, with the 2nd Queen's vice Staff Assistant Surgeon Hunter, under orders to proceed to Aden.

Dr. Williamson will travel expeditiously at the public expense.

POONA BRIGADE ORDERS.

By Brigadier-General R. Pratt, C.B., Commanding Poona Brigade.

Poona, 27th August, 1869.

The undermentioned Officer has obtained leave of absence:—

30th Regt.—Lieut. Jones, for four days, from this date, on station leave.

ARMY GENERAL ORDERS.

By His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Poona, 27th August, 1869.

The Commander-in-Chief is pleased to make the following appointments:—

24th Regt. N. I.—Lieutenant C. Fitz H. L. Way, Staff Corps, is attached to the 24th N. I., and will officiate as Wing Subaltern, vice Lieut. Martin, proceeded on furlough.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India has been pleased to approve the following transfer:—Private Thomas Holmes, from 1st Battalion 8th Foot to 18th Brigade R. A.

Ensign J. N. M. Forsyth, 82nd Foot, is appointed Staff Officer to the detachment of the Regiment at Hyderabad, with effect from the 1st June 1869, vice Lieutenant Nash, resigned under the provisions of para. 345 section L 3rd appendix to Jamieson's Code.

Color Sergeant Charles Cox, 1st Battalion 2nd Foot, appointed Hospital Sergeant to the Colaba Sanitarium, vice Sergeant T. Jenkins, 1-23rd Foot, who resigns the appointment.

The undermentioned is reported to have passed the required examination in Hindustani according to the lower standard:—

Indian Medical Department—Assistant Surgeon W. C. Kiernander.

GENERAL ORDERS BY THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

(*Government Gazette N.W. Provinces*, Aug. 25.)

Lieutenant W. W. Haywood, Adjutant of the Ajmere and Mhairwara Police Corps, is appointed to officiate as Commandant of that Corps as a temporary arrangement, in addition to his Police duties, with effect from the 16th July.

One year's furlough is granted to Mr. R. Waddington, District Superintendent of Police at Azimgurh, with effect from the 29th instant, or subsequent date, together with twenty days' preparatory leave.

One month's privilege leave of absence is granted to Mr. Henry Binny Webster, Magistrate and Collector of Saharunpore, with effect from the 1st instant, or subsequent date.

Mr. John Cunningham Leupolt, Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Zillah Goruckpore, is granted one month's leave of absence under the orders of the Government of India, to attend an examination for high proficiency in Hindustani at Calcutta, with effect from the 15th proximo.

Three months' privilege leave of absence is granted to Mr David Anthony, Deputy Collector at Mirzapore, with effect from the 25th instant, or subsequent date.

Mr. Henry Davis Willock, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Bareilly, is appointed to officiate in the same capacity at Boolund-shuhur.

Mr. Elliot Colvin, Superintendent Terrai Pergunnahs, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Bareilly.

Mr. Charles William Moore, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Azimgurh, is appointed to officiate in the same capacity at Etawah.

Mr. Joseph Sladen, Superintendent Dehra Doon, is appointed to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Azimgurh.

Mr. William Wolfran Gardner Cornwall, Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to officiate as Superintendent of Dehra Doon until further orders.

The Notification dated 22nd ultimo, transferring Mr. George Adams, Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Humeerpore, in the same capacity to Bustee, is cancelled.

Mr. John Hilkiah Carter, Assistant Magistrate and Collector of Jounpore, is transferred in the same capacity to Bustee.

Two months' privilege leave of absence has been granted to the Reverend Joseph Richards, Chaplain of Bareilly, with effect from the 18th instant, or subsequent date.

Mr. Francis Macnaghten is appointed to be Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the 1st Grade, with effect from the 28th ultimo, but will continue to officiate as Magistrate and Collector of Bustee until further orders.

Mr. J. C. Macdonald, Assistant Superintendent of the Terai Pergunnahs, is appointed to officiate as Superintendent of those Pergunnahs.

Mr. James Thompson, Assistant Forest Surveyor, and Officiating Assistant Conservator of Forests, Gurhwal, is permitted to resign his appointment in the Forest Department.

NOTIFICATIONS BY THE OFFICIATING CHIEF COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL PROVINCES.

Mr. T. L. Crawley, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, Sumbulpore, on leave, is transferred to the Raepore District.

Leave of absence for one month on medical certificate is granted to Major W. B. Thomson, Deputy Commissioner, Upper Godavery District, from the 16th instant.

SHIPPING.

DAILY FREIGHT REPORT—28TH AUGUST

London	Cotton	£1 12s. 0d. to £1 12 6	Nom. p. ton
	Cases	£1 15s. 0d. to £2 0s. 0d.	,,
	Seeds	£1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s. 0d.	,,
	Iron Ships Cotton	£1 3s. 0d. to £1 7s. 6d.	,,
Liverpool	Wooden Ships ,,	£1 5s. 0d.	Nominal.
	Myrabolms & Coir bdls	£0 19s. 0d. to £0 12s. 6d.	
	Seeds	£0 15s. 0d. to £0 17s. 6d.	
Havre	Cotton	£2 0s. 0d.	Nominal.
	Coffee	Nominal	
Overland	Steamers	£3 10s. 0d. to £3 15s. 0d	
China	Steamer Cotton	Rs. 10	per bale.
	Opium	Rs. 25 to 30	per chest.
	Sailing Ships		Nominal
Calcutta	Bale	Rs. 2 8 0 to 2 12 0	per ton.
Calcutta to Bombay		Rs. 13 to 14 and Calcutta Port Charges	
Mauritius		8 annas per bag	nominal.

ARRIVALS.

Aug.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
28	Emeu (s)	Babot	Hongkong, Aug. 3.
	Chalsgrow	Craig	Glasgow, May 7.
29	Vine	Mann	Singapore, Aug. 9.
	Hydree	Nacoda	Jeddah, July 29.

DEPARTURE.

Aug.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
28	Kurrachee (s)	Cottier	Kurrachee.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Aug. 23	Iskenderiah	Nacoda	Juddah, Aug. 4.
	Bussora	Turnbull	Sunderland, April 20
	Himalaya (s)	Atkinson	Bombay, Aug. 3.
24	Dunedin	Finley	Singapore, Aug. 7.
	Seamore	Cawsey	Liverpool, May 14

DEPARTURES.

Aug. 23	Meinam (s)	—	—
	Charles Maurera	—	—

MADRAS.

ARRIVALS.

Aug. 21	Barkarn	Smith	Nagapatam.
22	8 Indian		Negapatam.

MR. A. MENIST,

OCULIST OPTICIAN,

FROM AMSTERDAM AND LONDON,

ADELPHI HOTEL, BYCULLA,

RESPECTFULLY announces his arrival in Bombay; and begs to introduce his Newly Invented Spectacles, which are peculiarly adapted to the Indian climate.

TESTIMONIALS.

FROM NUSSERWANJEE MANOCKJEE WADIA, Esq.

I have much pleasure in testifying that Mr. A. Menist has supplied me with Spectacles which I have found to suit me much better than any I have hitherto been able to obtain.

Bombay, 31st July, 1869. N. M. WADIA.

FROM SORABJEE JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHOY, Esq.

A. MENIST, Esq., Optist,

Adelphi Family Hotel, Byculla.

DEAR SIR,—It gives me great pleasure to add my testimony to the thousands you have already acquired from the best of judges of the profession which you represent for introducing Glasses upon an improved principle for the use of persons of impaired sight.

My good wife was suffering from this complaint, and the worst of it was she could not procure a single pair of Spectacles to suit her eyes. She tried many, but after the use of them for a few moments they were rejected, as they instead of remedying the evil made it the more worse. Fortunately for me I formed your acquaintance and introduced you to Mrs. Sorabjee. The pair of Spectacles you gave her have suited her so comfortably, that since she has commenced wearing them she has become so much enamoured with them that she scarcely desires to put them aside for a single moment. I, therefore, without the least hesitation would proclaim to the sufferers from defective sight, &c., &c., "to apply at once to Mr. Menist, Optician, Adelphi Family Hotel, Byculla, if they are inclined to have their sight improved."

Wishing you every success in your profession in this strange land,—Believe me to be, yours very faithfully,

SORABJEE JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHOY.

Breach Candy Road, 22nd May, 1869.

BOMBAY SCOTTISH EDUCATION SOCIETY.

BYCULLA.

A SCHOOL in connexion with this Society will be OPENED on WEDNESDAY, the 1st September, at BYCULLA, in the house hitherto known as the ADELPHI FAMILY HOTEL.

The Girls' Department will be conducted by MRS. MACDONALD, and the Boys' Department by MR. MCAFEE, of the Scottish Fort High School. Instrumental Music will be taught by HERR SCHMUCK.

D. C. BOYD,
D. MACPHERSON, } Joint Secretaries.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS ONE RUPEE, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

BIRTH.

KIRKHAM—August 27th, at Mazagon, the wife of T. B. Kirkham, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SCOTT—PAYNE—August 24th, at Surat, by the Rev. A. L. Onslow, Thomas Winckworth, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel Winckworth Scott, Bombay Staff Corps, to Elizabeth Passmore Drummond, youngest daughter of the late Major-General Charles Payne, Bombay Army.

DEATH.

DUNLOP—August 26th, accidentally drowned in the Harbour of Bombay, William Henry Glasgow Dunlop, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Water Police, aged 38 years.

BENGAL.

BIRTH.

FRASER—August 23rd, at Bankipore, Patna, the wife of Mr. W. F. Fraser, Bank of Bengal, of a son.

DEATH.

CADDY—August 15th, at Calcutta, Hannah, widow of the late Major D. T. Caddy, 70th Regiment N. I., aged 43 years.

MADRAS.

BIRTH.

GORDON—August 20th, at Bellary, the wife of Mr. G. Gordon, C.E., of a daughter prematurely.

DEATH.

HOOGWERF—August 16th, at Trichinopoly, of tetanus from compound fracture of the left leg, by a fall from his horse, Mr. B. P. Hoogwerf, D. P. W.

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES, &c.

BIRTHS.

SENIOR—August 10th, at Deyrah Doon, the wife of Mr. H. Senior, 2nd Goorkha Regiment, of a son.

HOLROYD—August 21st, at Murree, the wife of Captain W. R. M. Holroyd, Bengal Staff Corps, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

RIND—August 20th, at Mussoorie, Captain W. J. Rind, Invalid Establishment, in his 64th year.

MICHELL—August 19th, at Subathoo, Montagu Thomas Ball Michell, Lieutenant and Adjutant, 41st, The Welsh Regiment.

DIXON—August 20th, at Holly Mount, Landour, Mussoorie, Eliza, wife of Captain A. DeB. Dixon, H. M.'s 14th Regiment.

NOTICE.

All CHEQUES, MONEY ORDERS, and other Remittances sent to this office, should be made payable to the "Proprietor of the *Bombay Gazette*."

Bombay Gazette Office, Bombay.

The Bombay Gazette

MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1869.

THE report of Mr. Chapman's Committee on the Municipal Accounts has met with such a favourable reception from competent judges that we may hope to see its recommendations substantially adopted at an early date. Our readers have had an opportunity of reading the report, and we shall not attempt to condense what we regard as an already condensed description of the projected plan. The simplicity and clearness of the fundamental principle are among the greatest recommendations of the system; and if under its operation we have monthly abstracts, that alone will be a reform full of promise. When the information is completely and clearly laid before them, the Justices will no longer feel that they are working in the dark, or that all their efforts are paralyzed by the discovery of some new source of expenditure or some onerous liability. So far as we understand it the Committee's scheme provides, for full details, but the experienced business men on the Bench may, of course, suggest further improvements. The principle of the project cannot be overset or amended. All accounts should manifest what you have, what you have paid away, what you owe; and this essential information the forms of Mr. Chapman's Committee promise to secure. Further we agree that it would be expedient to make the financial year of the Municipality correspond with the financial year of the Government, so that there may be the minimum of inconvenience in the collecting and accounting departments.

But what we most recommend to the attention of the Justices, what, indeed, in a broad sense, is more vital than forms, is the living check to the whole financial machine. Whether such a system as that devised, or any system, would work well, must depend on the acuteness, the industry, and above all, the moral courage and moral weight of the Controller. No matter whether the Commissioner be Mr. Crawford or any one else, real control will be just as much needed as it has been and is under the existing plan. A man with a stronger will than the Commissioner is required, yet also one who can put a velvet glove over his iron hand. Then again the Committee describe with force and accuracy the relations which should subsist between the Commissioner and Controller, and make very valuable suggestions for the future. Indeed, the forms will be next to worthless unless there is a spirit behind to inform them. We have not a word to say against Mr. Maidment's zeal and honesty of purpose; but no one ever said that he had the backbone or force of character to control the Commissioner. That he has laboured under great difficulties we all know; that he did not take his proper place in the administration is the fault of the Government which appointed him. He is not to blame. A man cannot *be* more than he *is*. Much as we prize information, abstracts, balance sheets, and the like—we prize still more highly, the actual living agency behind them, for unless that agency works up to the spirit of the forms, these forms, however perfect, will be more or less a snare. We know that these remarks are mere truisms; but it is astonishing how long you may repeat truisms before the powers of this world will take any heed to them whatever.

WHEN the Madras Government endeavoured to restrict the postal privileges of Anglo-Indians by confiscating some articles of jewelry found in the mails, we can readily believe that a thrill of indignation ran through every station in the empire; and it was with a sense of relief that the Indian public heard how the Supreme Government discountenanced the proceeding. We published the other day some correspondence which redounds to the credit of the Government, and especially of Mr. Monteath, the Director of the Post Office in India. The moot points now raised have been remitted to England for decision, and the Duke of Argyll, who has had considerable experience as Postmaster-General, must be in a position to form sound and liberal opinions on the question of policy.

We believe that the Indian community highly values the facility afforded by the Post Office for the transmission of small articles from home. Not one in a thousand would object to pay duty on the trifles imported, if it were deemed expedient to institute the necessary inquisitorial search in order to prevent what is called a "fiscal sacrifice." The real question is whether the State is so hard up for money that it cannot afford to permit any article included in the tariff to pass untaxed. The whole matter is one of expediency. Obviously, it would not be expedient for the mere purpose of producing symmetry to vex the Anglo-Indian public; and we doubt the wisdom of devising restrictions for the sake of the fund derived from their operation. Still, if the Government must have the money we are sure that the public would pay the duty with much better grace than they would bear an irritating interference. Many articles imported by post are presents from distant friends and relations. Others are trifles, sometimes valuable, no doubt, which cannot be readily obtained in India. The discomforts of exile in this country are quite severe enough, and need not be increased by rules which would place obstacles in the way of a practice which does little harm to the State, and affords considerable enjoyment to Her Majesty's subjects. There can be no one, from the Viceroy downwards, who does not appreciate the boon conferred by the present system, and it would be a harsh measure to interrupt the flow of human kindness for the sake of lodging a few rupees in the imperial coffers. It would be discreditable to place India on a level with "Turkey and Costa Rica," Moreover modern postal policy, in all countries, these excepted, has been based on the principle of multiplying communications, which are regarded as directly and indirectly contributing to the common sum of prosperity. Is not that a "sound ground of public policy" which justifies the alleged "fiscal sacrifice?" And it should be borne in mind that sooner than submit to the opening of letters, in order to search for dutiable articles, the public would beg that no such articles should be sent. So that the State would gain nothing, while the subject would lose all the benefits he now enjoys. Nor is this all: confidence in the inviolability of letters entrusted to the Post Office would be utterly gone; for no one could be certain that zealous officials would not break the seal in pursuit of contraband. Would payment of a few rupees to the Government compensate for the irritation aroused, the distrust engendered, the serious inconvenience caused by the minute inquisition that would be required?

On the other hand, and in order to check intentional evasions of duty, letters exceeding a certain weight might be opened in the presence of the persons to whom they are addressed, and if they contained dutiable articles, the duty might then and there be levied by the Post Office. Such a plan would check systematic importation by trading firms; but it should only be resorted to in case smuggling assumed large proportions.

The remarks of Mr. Monteath on the impolicy of interfering with the packet post need no comment. In the face of his statements no sensible ruler would fetter that mode of intercommunication. All our readers will agree with him that "to get a package from England any other way than by post involves so much trouble, so much expense, and the intervention of so many agents, that practically, the transmission of such packages depends for its existence on the facilities offered by the Post Office. Probably three quarters of the dutiable articles imported by pattern post would not be imported at all if the facilities of so importing them were withdrawn." We do not think it at all likely that the Duke of Argyll will take other than a broad and liberal view of the points submitted to his decision. The leanings of Lord Mayo, with his English training, must also be on the same side; and Mr. Monteath has made it plain that the policy of the Indian Post Office tends to facility and freedom, not to hindrances and restrictions.

WE shall certainly have the satisfaction, at no distant day, of presenting our daily contemporary to the public in the character of a sound and reasonable critic on the Central Asian question. Last week his progress was truly astonishing. We pointed out great improvements on Thursday. Those signs of convalescence were sustained in his issue of the 25th, and although he still exhibits many of the old symptoms, yet, as we shall show, they are more than counter-balanced by strong marks of returning health. Indeed the patient, who is a little restive under treatment, is "as well as can be expected."

No doubt many of our contemporary's ordinary readers will be puzzled by the striking admissions which he now feels compelled to make. We take pleasure in citing some. We now read for instance that if the Russians contemplated the abandonment of Samarcand it would be a withdrawal for the purpose of returning in greater force. "Indeed, it is plain enough that having gone so far, that is, over into the valley of Zerafshan, the Russians could not well recede. A reference to the map will show that withdrawal, however they might wish it, to the line of the Jaxartes, is next to impossible, besides its being quite out of keeping with the general object which, to all appearance, Russia has in view. Both in a military and political sense such withdrawal is out of the question, unless the absorption of Kokand on the East were deemed an equivalent for the position in Bokharian territory. The tenure of Samarcand and of the districts of which it forms the centre, must lead sooner or later to further hostilities against Bokhara." How much nearer the truth these utterances are than those to which we were a short time since accustomed the public will readily see. The writer goes on to predict that the Russians will one day acquire Bokhara, and Khiva into the bargain. It is even confessed that, should Samarcand not be restored to the Emir, it will be an additional "although superficial" —why superficial?—reason for believing in "those vast and aggressive designs which Russia is supposed to foster." We can conceive the agitation with which our contemporary anticipates the effect of the superficial reason on his stout mind. What a pang it must have cost him to write this. "It is likely enough, for good or evil, that some day the Russians, who cannot endure their present exposed and straggling position, must draw so near the lower waters of the Oxus, that their corporeal, as well as 'potential' presence will be beyond all dispute." Said we not that the patient, under the vigorous treatment applied from time to time, was growing better? Have we not cited proofs of conversion towards a rational frame of mind? We take much pleasure in recording his admission that the recent debate in the House of Commons has "cleared away a good deal of the mist which surrounded this subject in men's minds"—his own, we fervently trust, among the number; and that, as a consequence, he no longer sees the Russians in Central Asia as a "spectral shape," conjured up by the terror-stricken imaginations of persons with whom he did not agree, but who had a truer eye for facts than himself.

WE observe an announcement of the death at Landour of Captain W. J. Rind, of the Invalid Establishment.

WE also hear of the death at Morar of Lieutenant G. F. D. Sutton, 25th Brigade Royal Artillery.

THE mixed Court at Mandalay was duly opened by Major Sladen on 2nd August. It takes cognizance of those cases only which may have arisen since its institution.

THE Government of India has sanctioned the expenditure of Rs. 10,000 for the publication of Colonel Dalton's Descriptive Ethnology of Bengal, as proposed by the Bengal Asiatic Society.

THE case of Sheppard, the Eurasian dacoit, "Pootee Ghazee," has been quashed in the High Court, Justices Phear and Macpherson being of opinion that there is no reasonable proof that the prisoner is a British born subject. The prisoner was re-arrested on a Mofussil warrant and will be tried by the Sessions Judge of the 24 Pergunnahs.

FROM a Punjab Government Memorandum, it appears that "the state of the Punjab is critical in the extreme." Rain holds off, prices have risen rapidly, and a large amount of distress prevails. Applications for relief are pouring in from new directions. From Loodiana, Umritsur, Ferozepore, Hissar, Kurnal and Sirsa, the accounts are extremely gloomy.

REFERRING to the case of Private Gibson at Calcutta, who was sentenced to penal servitude for life for shooting a man while drunk, the "Friend of India" makes the remark—"We have no fault to find with the verdict of the jurymen or the sentence of the Judge, but we would remark upon the different ways in which the law is interpreted in different courts, as seen in the cases of Waterhouse at Allahabad and Green at Bombay, both of whom suffered death for crimes committed under similar circumstances."

LAST Wednesday's "Calcutta Gazette" contained notice that a petition of insolvency was filed on 23rd instant by the members of the late firm of E. Labadie and Company, subsequently Le Tourneux, Labadie and Company. The notice is in the matter of Ernest Le Tourneux, and Eugene Labadie, carrying on business under the name, style, and firm of Le Tourneux, Labadie and Co., in co-partnership with Forbes Fortune Allison, James Stewart Campbell, and William Swinhoe.

AMONG the changes of location consequent on Mr. Lindsay's promotion to the Chief Court of the Punjab will be, the "Pioneer" believes, the transfer of Mr. H. G. Keene, the Judge of Azimgurh, to Futtehpore, in the same capacity.

WE learn from the "Pioneer" that the 58th Regiment has been entirely exempt from cholera since it left Allahabad. The Regiment is at present encamped at Oonchadeek, about fifty miles from Allahabad on the Jubbulpore line.

No more cases of cholera have appeared in the 41st Regiment. Mr. Mitchell, the adjutant, the notice of whose death appeared in our last issue, was carried off by intermittent fever. Mr. Mitchell was to have left Subathoo for England on leave the very day he died.—*Pioneer.*

THE Ball—the last one we imagine which Lady Mansfield will give before her departure to England,—at Woodville, on Friday evening last (20th), is said to have been very successful. The Viceroy and Lady Mayo arrived about 10, and dancing was immediately commenced, to the music of His Excellency the Viceroy's band. Well-lighted rooms, and a most excellent floor, put every one in good humour, and dancing was, we hear, kept up till a late hour.—*Mofussilite.*

LAST week we stated on the authority of the *Hindoo Patriot*, that in order to escape registration under the Contagious Diseases Act, many dancing girls have induced Mussulmans to marry them by the *nika* form. A correspondent asks—Has the Deputy Commissioner of Police enquired how many co-wives each applicant before him has, and whether the number of her associates in the new abode exceeds the legal limit? The Courts will soon be flooded with suits for dower, and restitution of conjugal rights.—*Friend of India.*

IT is reported in military circles, with what authority we know not, that the home authorities are, in addition to the changes already announced, about to restore the old form of forage cap, and assimilate it to that worn at present by the Guards. It is also said that the office of Musketry Instructor will be abolished, and that an extra Adjutant to supervise this and other out-door exercises will be appointed, while his colleagues will attend to the office work and interior economy. This, we believe, is the system followed in the Austrian and some other continental armies.—*Delhi Gazette.*

A LETTER from Murree, dated the 20th instant, informs us that the 23rd Pioneers from Rawul Pindee had passed through that station *en route* to Baugnoten near Abbottabad, where they are to be employed on making roads. It adds that Lieutenant Trail, of H. M.'s 1-19th Regiment, is very seriously ill there, and that a gallant Colonel of Abyssinian fame has been relieved of some of his jewelry and other valuables by some light-fingered Cyprian or other attendant of equally loose notions of the distinction between *meum* and *tuum*. The matter is in the hands of the police—and will probably remain there.—*Delhi Gazette.*

THE "Mofussilite" reaffirms that there is no foundation whatever for the rumour that the Great Durbar in honour of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh may have to be held at Lucknow instead of at Agra. The reason which may make it necessary to have no Durbar whatever, applies with even more force to Lucknow than to Agra, for the Chiefs who would form the majority of the assembly on such an occasion, would have further to march if Oudh was the *venue*, and therefore would add more to the prevailing distress of the country. From Rajpootana alone, if all the eighteen Chiefs were to attend, it is calculated that 30,000 men is the least possible number which these Princes would, in the aggregate, have in their train. Such a multitude would require large stores of food and fodder, and if the autumn harvest did not materially affect the prices of grain, would carry famine wherever they went.

MILITARY LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, 6TH AUGUST.

A GENERAL ORDER has appeared which announces that Major-General Sir W. F. Gordon is to be the Inspector-General of Engineers. The absurd rumours which were circulated that this position was being kept open to be bestowed on Lord Napier of Magdala are now silenced. The position of Inspector-General of Engineers is one of high honour and great renown, but hardly quite suitable for one who has commanded armies and been raised to the peerage for service in the field. If those who ought to know the facts really do, Lord Napier is only coming home for a little rest, and to recruit his health; and in all probability will within not very many months return to India as Commander-in-Chief, not indeed at Bombay, but in a more general sense.

In the House of Commons last night Mr. Stackpoole asked the Secretary of State for War whether his attention had been called to recent instances of a non-commissioned officer, while in the execution of his duty, having been shot by a private soldier; whether he was not of opinion that the perpetration of these crimes was facilitated by the custom of leaving ball ammunition in the possession of soldiers; and whether he considered that the efficiency of the army would be impaired by the adoption of a system under which soldiers would be in possession of ball ammunition only during the time when the duty they might be employed upon necessitated their being furnished with it. Mr. Cardwell said—"This question was raised last Session, and the decision then taken was to adhere to the existing practice. I think, however, it is impossible to deny that the constant possession of ball cartridge does give facility in a time of excitement for the perpetration of those crimes which we have occasion to deplore. I shall lose no time in considering what regulations it may be expedient to adopt for the purpose of obviating this evil; and my hon. friend may rest assured that those regulations will be framed in such a manner as not to impair the efficiency of the army."

This question and answer were called up by the fact that of late an enormous quantity of suicides have been committed by soldiers with their own rifles; and two or three cases have lately occurred where soldiers shot the non-commissioned officers in charge of them. The case in particular which occurred at Devonport this week, and details of which will be found in all the daily papers, has attracted special attention.

A supplement to the fourth report of the committee appointed to enquire into the best mode of carrying the soldiers' kit has appeared. With regard to it the *Lancet* says—

In the fourth report of this committee, which we noticed some months since, it was stated that about 23 corps had worn, for periods ranging from two to four months, the new valise equipment, and that all, with the exception of the 92nd regiment, had reported in its favour. The committee also stated that they did not think any further trials would lead to the discovery of any better system than that which they had devised, and that the time had arrived for coming to a decision on this important question. They felt that they had found the best, and perhaps the only, way in which the military weights can be carried with complete freedom to the chest, and without injurious pressure on important parts; these weights being placed low down, and the ship boues being made to sustain the greater portion of the burden which hitherto has been thrown on the chest, only to confine its movements in the act of respiration, and to interfere with the action of the heart, especially under extra exertion, as in the execution of rapid movements or sustained effort of any kind. At the same time it was hinted that steps would be taken to compare the respective merits of Colonel Carter's knapsack and of the committee's pack, as it had been implied (erroneously, however, in the opinion of the committee) that the valise plan is not fitted for kilted regiments. We learn from a supplement to the fourth report that, when the latter was submitted to the military authorities, both Mr. Cardwell and the Commander-in-Chief, after careful consideration, deemed the labours of the Knapsack Committee conclusive, and decided that the equipment recommended by the committee should be adopted for the army. At this time Colonel Carter complained that his knapsack had not been fairly tried; and Mr. Cardwell directed that 50 Carter's knapsacks and 50 "valises" should be supplied to the Highland regiments—viz., the 42nd, and the depots of the 78th, 79th, 92nd and 93rd—for competitive trials. As these were kilted regiments, the merits of the Carter knapsack and the applicability of the "valise" to kilted regiments could thus be determined at one and the same time. The 92nd, which originally reported in favour of Colonel Carter's knapsack, is the only regiment which now applies in its favour. The reports from the other depots are strongly in favour of the valise equipment. This being the case, the Commander-in-Chief consider the latter should be now generally adopted, and that ten regiments should be supplied annually. Colonel Carter has had fair play. The men who reject his knapsack do so on the ground that "it hurts them in the small of the back, and no arrangement of the kit appeared to remedy this fact;" that it is more fatiguing to carry than the valise, and that it does not give so much freedom to arms as the latter does. The new pattern of English infantry equipment has been carefully tested by the Prussians, who seem to speak highly in its favour; and an interesting letter from Colonel Walker, the military *attaché* at Berlin, is printed in the supplement. The old knapsack, or "the monkey," as the Prussian soldiers call it, will soon, therefore, disappear from the British army, to the comfort of the soldier and an increase of his efficiency.

Up to the present time nearly all our reviews and sham battles have been on arranged programmes. In cases where no special programmes have been issued and no real enemy put to mark the line of the defence strange mistakes have often arisen, such as infantry finding themselves in front of the fire of their own guns, or cavalry appearing to make prisoners of their own supports. Latterly much of this fighting by rule has been changed at Aldershott. On the return of Sir Alexander Horsford's flying column from the Wimbledon meeting there was a real sham fight, if we may use such a term, for Sir Alexander with his division had to steal such a march upon the camp force as would enable him to surprise them and get the advantage in an attack, and this, in spite of every precaution and vigilance on the part of the defenders, Sir Alexander really did. On Saturday a flying column, under Major General White, left Aldershott. The force consisted of the 7th Dragoon Guards, 1st Battalion of the 12th Regiment, 1st Battalion of the 25th, 4th Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, one battery of the Royal Horse Artillery, and one field battery, with a detachment of the Military Train and of Engineers. It marched to Sandhurst on Saturday, rested on Sunday, and on Monday was to do its best to surprise Aldershott. To defend the lines Sir James Scarlett had a force, consisting of the 5th Dragoon Guards, 6th Dragoons, 10th Hussars, the Blues, the C Brigade of Horse Artillery, three field batteries, the 7th Fusiliers, 23rd Regiment, the 2nd Queen's, 5th Fusiliers, 13th Regiment, 3rd Buffs, 34th Regiment, 35th Regiment, 2nd Battalion of Rifle Brigade, 4th Battalion of 60th Rifles, with Engineers and Military Train. The Duke of Cambridge came down by the 8 o'clock morning train, and by that time all Sir James Scarlett's dispositions against the enemy had been made, but, in spite of all the vedettes and outposts could do, very little was known of the enemy. At 9 o'clock it was surmised that he was in front moving at some five miles distance a little beyond the village of Frimley. As it was not known which way the enemy were coming, every possible point of approach to the camp was guarded against, and General Scarlett and his Staff were posted, waiting for the enemy to fall into the toils they had laid for them. The enemy's plan had been to keep as much out of sight as possible

THE DISTRESS IN MARWAR.

In reference to the correspondence on this subject which appeared in our columns on Thursday last, we are requested to inform the public that an account has been opened at the New Bank of Bombay under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, to be operated on by the Secretary to the Chamber, and called *The Marwar Famine Fund*, to which all desirous of contributing to the relief of the serious distress prevailing in Marwar are invited to pay their subscriptions.

All sums paid into the Bank of Bombay to this account shall be promptly remitted to Colonel Keatinge, V.C., C.S.I., the Governor General's Agent in Rajpootana, Aboo, for distribution, and payments as received and remitted shall be duly made public.

LORD MAYO.

It is known that since his Lordship's return, in April last, from the Dehra Dhoon, where the Rheea Fibre was first brought to his notice, Lord Mayo has devoted much attention to the important question of the more extensive utilization of Indian fibres. It is probable that in furtherance of this important object, very practical measures will early be set on foot. Amongst the fibrous plants which have thus recently enjoyed distinguished notice, happens to be the *aleo perfoliata* or (in the vernacular) *ekwa*, utilized to some considerable extent by Dr. Mackenzie of Dharwar, who with it fenced all the jail garden and Civil Hospital of that station.—*Mofussilite*.

ACTIONS AGAINST THE CALCUTTA PRESS FOR DEFAMATION.

We hear that Mr. N. P. Pogose of Dacca and others, chiefly concerned in the recent Dacca will case, the proceedings in which were quashed at the instance of the Advocate General, have instructed their lawyers in Calcutta to institute actions against the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News* for defamation, on account of certain articles which appeared in the columns of our contemporaries while the case was still *sub judice*. Damages—money not being the object—have been fixed at Rs. 1,001 in each case, so as to remove the trials from the Small Cause Court to the High Court. Otherwise the amount claimed would, it is said, have been merely nominal.—*Pioneer*.

CENSUS OF SIMLA.

A census of the European and native population of Simla was taken on the night of the 22nd of last month. The papers have only just been completed. They show a total of 1,434 Europeans and 13,414 natives. In 1841, there were only about 206 Europeans in 1842 they had increased to 219, in 1843 to 300; the increase during the past twenty-six years has been nearly five times the population of 1843.—*Indian Volunteer Gazette*.

BOMBAY.

Public Works Congress.—We hear that there will be no Public Works Congress this year at Poona.

The Rajah of Akulkote is now on his way to Poona, to visit His Excellency the Governor.—*Poona Observer*.

Police Courts.—The Magistrates will dispose of only the morning cases to-day, on account of the Gokul Ashtami holiday.

The s. s. Kurrachee, Captain Cottier, for Kurrachee, sailed on Saturday, with the following passengers:—Mr. and Mrs. Rivett and three children.

Accommodation for the European Police.—The Chief Magistrate of Police has put aside a room in the Fort Police Court for the accommodation of the Europeans of the police force.

Mr. J. Fernandez, the Assistant Revenue Commissioner of the Northern Division, is, we hear, to be presented with a testimonial on his leaving that department, consequent on his being appointed to the Deputy Magistracy of Ahmedabad.—*Poona Observer*.

Surat Collectorate.—The weather report of the Surat collectorate, for the fortnight ending 15th August, informs us that the crops were in good condition. The districts were reported to be healthy, except Pardee, Chiklee, Walore, and Mandvee. Cattle were free from disease.

Indo-European Line.—The Director of the Indo-European line reported to Government on Saturday that the cable was right to Fao; that the Turkish line was right to Constantinople; and that the Persian line was right to Tabreez. The latest dates from Great Britain, via Turkey, were 26th August; via Russia 16th August.

The Report of the Pensioners' and Widows' Fund exhibits a prosperous condition of things. The contributions of the public were largely increased in 1868, and there was in addition the Government grant of Rs. 2,400. There are about 50 inmates, and their comfort and welfare seem to be well looked after.—*Bombay Guardian*.

Alleged Theft of Cotton.—On Saturday last Mr. Nana Morojee committed Luxumon Crishnajee, Goverdhun Mooljee, and Muthooradas Canjee to stand their trial at the ensuing Criminal Sessions,—the first prisoner on a charge of theft of cotton of the value of Rs. 500, and the latter two prisoners for dishonestly receiving stolen property.

The Royal Artillery Ball, which took place at Kirkee, on Wednesday evening last, is universally acknowledged to have been one of, if not *the* best ever given in Poona. Very shortly after nine o'clock, His Excellency the Governor arrived, and was received by a guard of honour, composed of a party of the B Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery, under Captain Lodge, and soon afterwards dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit until past three o'clock on Thursday morning. With a view of affording greater sitting accommodation outside the dancing rooms, a very prettily arranged, covered-in shrubbery and grotto was got up beyond the verandah, on one side of the upper ball-room. It was much admired for its coolness, and quiet, and greatly patronized between the dances. The supper was laid out in the racket court, which was richly decorated for the occasion. All the beauty and fashion of Poona, Kirkee, and the surrounding suburbs were of course present, but we regret to learn that indisposition prevented His Excellency Lord Napier of Magdala from attending.—*Poona Observer*.

THE STATE OF APOLLO STREET.

As a number of readers may have noticed, a lot of patches of stones have lately been laid in Apollo Street. Unfortunately for those engaged in the High Court a deal of them are opposite the court buildings, and during the hearing of the suit regarding Premchund Roychund's 25 lakh loan, there has been not a little difficulty with judges, barristers, and witnesses in hearing each other. On Saturday the Advocate General was calmly awaiting the passing of some hack buggy or other gharry so that his questions might be heard by the witness, when

Mr. Justice Westropp remarked that a more simple plan would be to request the Municipal Commissioner to have some earth placed over the stones and then have them rolled. The inconvenience was bad enough just now, but what would it be during the Criminal Sessions?—the jury would be unable to hear.

The Advocate General remarked that he had seen a sepoy stationed to request drivers to pass slowly.

Mr. Scoble said a late Chief Justice had ordered a fire-engine to be stopped.

His Lordship replied that there were such stretches of authority. He did not mean to say that it should not be done on certain occasions; but, in such cases he never sent a peremptory order but merely a request. He had no doubt the Municipal Commissioner would see to it.

The Advocate General said that as a temporary expedient a sheriff's officer might be stationed below.

His Lordship remarked that they were so nearly finished for the day that they need not station one now; and he had no doubt the Municipal Commissioner would have a remedy effected.

FORT POLICE COURT.—28th August.

(Before John Connon, Esq.)

Gambling.—Luxamon Gunoo was charged with gaming with dice and money in a public thoroughfare this day, and was fined half a rupee. The money found on the ground was ordered to be confiscated.

Theft.—Seewa Suttoo was charged with stealing three pieces of zinc, the property of the National Bank, and, being a youth, was ordered to be sent to the David Sassoon Reformatory.

False Pretences.—Curreem Daud and Babajee Bhowanee were charged with obtaining by false pretences eight annas belonging to Umrow Govind. The first prisoner was convicted and sentenced to fourteen days' rigorous imprisonment. The second man was discharged.

Refusing Fare.—Curreem Daud, the prisoner in the above case, was charged with omitting to pay the legal fare for the hire of a public conveyance. The Magistrate ordered the prisoner to pay two rupees to complainant, or in default to suffer seven days' imprisonment.

A SHIP BURNED TO THE WATER'S EDGE.

A MAN SUFFOCATED.

On Saturday afternoon the ship Commodore Parry, Captain Black, arrived at the mouth of Bombay harbour, with a cargo of coals on fire, which exploded just at the inner light vessel, and the ship has since been burnt to the water's edge. It seems that the Commodore Parry, which is a vessel of 1,979 tons, left Newcastle-on-Tyne with a cargo of coals on the 9th March, and touched at Galle for orders not till the middle of last month. The cargo was discovered to be on fire on Tuesday last and the hatches were battened down on Friday. The fire continued to increase, and latterly the men were unable to live in the forecastle and could scarcely go below. Bombay harbour was made on Saturday evening, and a pilot was shipped near the outer light ship. The heat and smoke were then very strong, and at nearly ten o'clock an explosion took place, which burst open the hatches and the fire then spread over the ship. Unfortunately the steward met a sad death just at that time. The captain had sent him below to the aftercabin only a few minutes before to fetch a bottle of beer for the pilot, and when the explosion took place it was at once feared he must have perished below. Search was at once made and the poor fellow was found suffocated in the cabin, the wind through the fore hatch having, probably, driven the smoke in upon him till he was poisoned. Another of the crew was a good deal injured by the explosion, one of the hatches being driven on him and severely hurting his arms. After the explosion, the ship was anchored near the inner light ship, and Captain Black and five men, accompanied by the pilot, went off in a boat to ask assistance from the transport Euphrates, which was lying in the harbour. A boat and crew was despatched under the command of Lieutenant Hume and Navigating Lieutenant Farrant, whilst Lieutenant Smith of the Malabar (the men of which are at present on board the sister ship, as the Malabar is in dock) also left with a boat and crew. On reaching the burning ship they slipped her anchor and—the wind being from the W. S. W.—she was run before the wind into shallow water and then scuttled about 800 yards off Karanjah by the carpenter and sailmaker.

On communication with the Euphrates, Captain Black was recommended to report the matter to the Dockyard authorities, and he at once went ashore and at shortly after midnight informed Mr. Jolley of the circumstances. He prepared the water boats and the steam grapeller—in order to extinguish the fire and take the vessel to Mazagon—and left at about two o'clock for the Commodore Parry, which he expected to find near the inner light-ship. The Master Attendant (Captain Pryce) and his assistant, Mr. Corke, then left with a steam-tug to render any help in towing the ship to Mazagon, but on proceeding to the vicinity of the inner light-ship they found that the Commodore Parry was not where they expected to find her. Then they steamed about the harbour, but did not discover the vessel till about daybreak, when they saw her lying at Karanjah, whither the crew from the transport had taken her. Mr. Jolley reached her at about the same time and operations were at once commenced on the burning vessel. The grapeller was then placed alongside and a Government water boat stationed opposite and the hose from each was kept playing on the burning ship—another water boat being unable to get alongside on account of the heavy swell. The crew of the ship, a number of the crew from the Dockyard and others from the Coromandel and the Earl Canning set to work in gettiug down the canvass and transferring the stores from the burning ship to the Dockyard tug; and after a great portion of these had been got ready Captain Pryce and Mr. Jolley returned ashore at about nine in the morning Mr. Corke remained at the fire and kept the water going on the coals, and the men also kept up the work of removing the stores and canvass. In the afternoon Mr. Jolley returned to the ship, but after the some hours it was evidently unsafe to remain in the boat in case of the mainmast falling over, and so he returned with Mr. Corke in the evening, fetching a further lot of stores. The main hatch had been blown up shortly after ten in the morning and there was a strong fire round the mainmast and in all the fore part of the vessel when they left; and as evening came on the flames burst out all over the ship, forward of the mainmast. The fire was burning through the cargo along the waterline, so that the vessel was yesterday evening a total loss, and every one had left her.

Capt. Black, we should say, returned to his ship after communicating with the authorities, but as he was in his boat and did not know the whereabouts of the vessel he did not get to her till after Mr. Jolley. He was ashore again in the course of the day informing his agents, and was endeavouring to get boats to go to the ship, but did not succeed in securing any. The Commodore Parry was a three-decker and formerly belonged to the Black Line of Mail Packets. She was an old vessel, but had recently undergone thorough repairs. Captain Black has previously been to Bombay, but not for some years. There had been thirty-eight hands on board after the death of the steward, and these all got their clothes into the boats and got safely ashore; and the most of the men are now in the Sailor's Home The captain had taken his chronometers and the ship's papers with him when he first left the ship, and these are all saved.

The steward's body was brought ashore, and buried yesterday in the Colaba burying-ground. A coroner's inquest was held on the Apollo Bunder yesterday afternoon, by Dr. Lumsdaine, when the following evidence was given:—

Robinson Bell deposed—I was third mate of the Commodore Parry. The deceased was steward on board that vessel. I was with him on board the vessel about 9 P.M. yesterday, and he was then alive and well We arrived in port yesterday from Newcastle laden with coals. About ten o'clock last night, as I was on the forecastle, I heard an explosion and the two forehatches were blown off and fire burst up from the hold. At this time we had the pilot on board but had not anchored. I went aft, and when I got there I saw the deceased lying on the poop. He was then dead.

Thomas Black deposed—I am master of the ship Commodore Parry and reached this port last night, bringing a cargo of coals. In coming up the harbour with the pilot on board, at about 9 or 10 P.M., there was a sudden explosion and the two fore-hatches were blown off and flames and smoke burst up from the hold. At this time I was on the poop with the pilot. About five minutes before this I had been down in the after-cabin and I then told the deceased, who was my steward, to get out a bottle of beer for the pilot. Whilst he was getting it from one of the rooms in the after-cabin the explosion occurred. The alarm was then raised that a man was killed, and I at once sent to look for the steward. I myself also went, and on going into the room where the beer was kept I saw him lying on the floor. I helped to carry him on to the poop. He was dead.

The jury returned the following verdict—"Accidental death by a poisonous explosion of gas."

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

The following dates of private telegrams were received at the Bombay Telegraph Office during the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock yesterday evening:—

United Kingdom, via Turkey, 24th and 25th August.

Continent of Europe, via Turkey, 23rd, 24th, and 25th August.

From Alexandria, 21st August.

The time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay from 8 P.M. of the 28th to 8 P.M. of the 29th August is as follows:—

To Bombay	Max.		Min.	
From Kurrachee	5	5	0	7
„ Calcutta	6	35	1	0

Communication between Bombay and Kurrachee perfect.

Undelivered messages in the Bombay Signal Office—
For G. Wyatt, from Calcutta.
For Abdool Ruzzuckie, from Calicut.

Mr. E. PRATT.

Some time ago, as our readers are aware, Mr. E. Pratt, Assistant Commissioner of Customs, was suspended by Government. This, we understand, was for having disobeyed orders in contesting the right of the Elphinstone Land and Press Company to levy landing fees at their bunder. The case was to have been heard in the Small Cause Court but, it will be remembered, was abandoned. It seems Mr. Pratt had been informed two years ago that the Company's right was considered by Government and the legal advisers of Government to be valid, and had been told that he was expected to take no steps against the Company in the matter. Hence Mr. Pratt's fault in instituting the suit. Government called upon him for an explanation of his conduct, which he gave but it was considered that much of it had no reference to the matter in question, and that altogether it was disingenuous and unsatisfactory. Mr. Pratt has consequently been reduced from being an Assistant Commissioner of the 2nd class, to the bottom of the 3rd grade; the reduction in salary being from Rs. 750 to Rs. 450 a month. Any repetition of the offence will bring dismissal. The punishment seems severe, but cannot be judged with a knowledge only of the slender outline of the facts.

ALBERT LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

MEETING OF BOMBAY POLICY-HOLDERS.

A meeting of the policy-holders of the Albert Life Assurance Company was held in the office of Messrs Manisty and Hurrell, solicitors, on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of "taking such steps as may be deemed advisable for protecting the interest of the concerned." There was a very large attendance.

On the motion of Dr. Diver, seconded by Mr. F. H. Souter, C.S.I., Colonel Hatch, R.A., was called to the chair.

After reading the notice calling the meeting,

Mr. Hurrell, solicitor, said—I have called you together, gentlemen, at the request of some gentlemen holding policies in the Albert Life Assurance Company here, as well as at the request of some gentlemen in London who are acting in behalf of some policyholders there; and who have sent a telegram asking me to obtain the co-operation of the policy-holders here with some of them at home. They also inform me that the petition to wind up the company has been presented by the directors in the interests of the shareholders, and therefore in a contrary interest to yours. The hearing of the petition is fixed for the 10th of September next, and it is therefore necessary that some immediate steps be taken to prevent the shareholders from having it all their own way in the matter of winding up this company. Many of you are doubtless aware that this company is an unlimited company, and that therefore the shareholders of the company are liable to contribute to the fullest extent of their means in satisfaction of the debts of the company. I am sorry to say from what I have heard that the list of shareholders of the company is not a very first-rate one. The company's credit for a long time past has been at a low ebb, and the shares have been selling at a great discount. Those who have sold their shares, however, within a year from the commencement to wind up, are still liable in a secondary degree towards payment of the debts of the company. The sums which may be recovered from the shareholders may not be large, but whatever it is you are entitled to have the benefit of it. We are of course in the dark at present as to the immediate cause of the stoppage of the company or as to what steps have been taken in the matter, and all we can do is to wait the arrival of the mail for further information before deciding as to any future steps that may be considered advisable; but there is, I think, gentlemen, immediate need of your taking action in the matter with a view of having your interests properly protected before it is too late. There are a large number of policy-holders in and about Bombay, and your joint action cannot fail, in my opinion, to be of great advantage to you. The first point to be considered, and what you should lose no time about, is to see that good men independent of the shareholders, are appointed as liquidators, for it will depend principally upon this whether or no your interests have that consideration which they deserve. Most of you have doubtless observed that meetings have been held in Calcutta, in fact I think it is owing to meetings in Calcutta in the first instance that this company has been brought to grief in such a sudden and unexpected manner. Of course it is a matter of opinion whether that has been advantageous or not; but I think we should all admit it is advantageous for the policy-holders of the company that it should be stopped, for its condition has been very bad for some time past, and going on could only make matters worse. As I understand there have been advertisements announcing that the company has a paid-up capital of £750,000, but of this there has been a large proportion,—£250,000—paid to other offices for the good-will of the business which they have brought, and these offices have brought bad business which has been the ruin of this company. It seems that in Calcutta they have adopted the suggestion that I put before you now that of appointing a committee, and I think that is the only way that the matter can be carried out. If you appoint three or four gentlemen to act as a committee the whole thing will be done very easily. I think as far as the directors here go—I mean our local directors—they have done their duty, and they are not responsible for the losses which have been sustained; from what I can find out they have simply been treated as so many dummies or as so many cat's-paws by the directors in London, and all the money that has been paid by the policy-holders in Calcutta, Bombay, and elsewhere has been taken away to London as fast as the directors there could get hold of it. I have had letters from gentlemen out of Bombay, saying that they will have no faith in the reconstruction of this company, for it has already been reconstructed so many times—(hear, hear,)—that they will not have any other reconstruction, but would rather have the company wound up and get their money back, or as much of if as they can get; but I think that is a matter that it will be far better that you should leave to the committee you may appoint, who may confer with the liquidators in London and act generally for the policy-holders in this matter. It may be that in the course of the winding up of the company some other company of good standing and respectability may offer to take over some part of the business. (No, no.) It might be advantageous for the policy-holders to accept that offer, but that I think will be a matter for after-consideration. But I don't think you should go to work hastily and say at once that you will not amalgamate. I do not say you should consent to a reconstruction of the company, but if you join a company of good standing and position I think you might safely venture to join your interests with others.

After some conversation generally approving Mr. Hurrell's suggestion,

The Chairman remarked that it seemed impossible that any one present could be sufficiently acquainted with those present to nominate a committee at once; and he suggested that the gentlemen present should name those whom they knew as likely to act on a committee and then a selection could be made from that list. Really there was no one present who knew more than a few of the policy-holders.

Dr. Diver thought that only a small committee was necessary. They had little information before them at present with regard to the position of the company, and all they wanted was four or five gentlemen to watch the interests of the policy-holders—to keep their eyes about them, and let the policy-holders know what was going on and what they ought to do. (Hear, hear.) He thought that a large committee would be a mistake, and that they should only appoint four or five gentlemen to watch over their interests and call them together when necessary.

After a deal of desultory talk,

A committee of nine committees was then appointed in accordance with Mr. Hurrell's suggestion:—Colonel Hatch; Mr. Souter, Commissioner of Police; Mr. A. Edginton, Deputy Commissioner of Police Mr. Arthur Crawford, Municipal Commissioner; Dr. Diver; Mr. Nathaniel Spencer; Mr. Morriss, Agra Bank; and Mr. Summers, Assistant Registrar Sudder Adawlut.

Dr. Diver then suggested that it would be very satisfactory were Mr. Hurrell to advise the policy-holders as to the premia that were now falling due—whether or not they should act according to the advertisement.

A gentleman sitting next him said that his premium was nearly due, and it might be satisfactory were Mr. Hurrell to explain how they should act.

Mr. Hurrell—My advice is this, Pay it to the person who is authorized to receive the premia, and I think before any policy-holder pays he is entitled to ask the authority of the person who grants the receipt. Now Mr. Slater has advertised that he is authorized by the official liquidator. That authority can be given only by telegram, and I don't think that is sufficient; but if he is so authorized he will have a power of attorney sent out, and so I think the best thing for you will be to write that you are prepared to pay whenever he is prepared to give a proper receipt.

Dr. Anderson—Could the committee grant a receipt?

Mr. Hurrell—I don't think their receipt would be valid.

Dr. Diver—Then could a director, because the receipt is not valid unless signed by three directors in addition to the secretary?

Mr. Hurrell—But when a company goes into liquidation the powers of the directors cease, and as this company is now being wound up the directors have no authority.

Mr. Fletcher—In my individual case the premium becomes due on the 6th of next month, and I am glad Dr. Diver has mooted the question in order that I may get Mr. Hurrell's opinion on the subject.

Mr. Hurrell—It comes simply to this—if the policies are to be handed over to another office then the payment of the premia would be keeping them alive; but I think if any gentleman intends not to renew his policy, but is to make his claim on the company as a creditor, he is not bound to pay at all.

Dr. Anderson—But suppose I don't pay my premium which is due on the 23rd of next month, does my policy lapse?

Mr. Hurrell—I don't say it does.

Dr. Diver—Might not the committee receive the premia to dispose of under instructions to be received?

Mr. Hurrell—I don't think the committee should take it.

Dr. Diver—It is a question of law, but in case of death where the premium is not paid, would the policy lapse?

Mr. Hurrell—I don't know, I should not like to give an off-hand opinion on that point. But the appointment of the liquidator is not to carry on the company but simply to wind it up.

Dr. Diver—But I saw in one of the papers that we must pay it up.

The Chairman—Could not the directors say that if the policy-holders do not pay up they have not carried out their part of the agreement?

Mr. Hurrell—The directors have no power; they are out of office.

Dr. Anderson suggested that all premia that became due should be paid into the Bank of Bombay and notice given to that effect.

The Chairman—That is quite a matter of opinion of the individual shareholders, we cannot bind the others. Some might prefer paying the policy to losing all, and others might oppose that; but we cannot bind any one.

Mr. N. Spencer remarked that he understood the directors were willing to receive the money of premia that would fall due and place it in the Bank of Bombay. Now if they were so and were under promise to return the money by a certain time in case some arrangement was not entered into with some other company he did not see why a committee now appointed should displace them, because although it might be said that the directors had not any legal authority to receive premia so also it might be said the committee now appointed had no legal authority either. It struck him it would be better not to make changes on the mode of payment unless there was some obvious advantage in doing so. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Souter—It appears to me the best plan would be for the policy-holders who have premia coming due to pay them into some bank and then intimate to the secretary that they have done so and will pay them when he has authority to receive them.

Dr. Anderson—But in what name will the bank receive it?

Dr. Diver remarked that Mr. Cleveland, the solicitor of the company, was present, and probably he would tell them in what position they stood. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cleveland—I am only a policy-holder myself, but I tell you what I propose to do. The policy is worded thus—If the assured pays down a certain premium on a given day, every half year or month, to a certain office in Bombay, then within a certain time after his death they will pay so much money. Now I am afraid at law if a person—notwithstanding what was said to have taken place and of which we have no certain knowledge—if a person allowed his time to go by without paying his premium and afterwards died, and his representatives went for payment, the company would say "You have no claim against us because the policy-holder did not pay at the office of the company." Therefore, to make sure, what I will do when my premium falls due will be to go to the office and pay the money, and if the secretary says to me, "I am not authorised to receive the money," then I have done all I am bound to do, and I can please myself whether or not I will act on the telegram which has been received—the genuiness of which I have no reason to doubt. We are told that a professional liquidator has been appointed, and that there is a person out here to receive the money on his account, and I therefore think that we shall do enough if we offer to pay the money to the person entitled to receive it. Mr. Slater was saying that there would be difficulties in paying it to him, and asked whether it would not be better to pay it to the Bombay directors—Mr. McCulloch, barrister; Mr. Astley, of Messrs. Ewart, Latham, & Co.; Mr. Loudon, Administrator General; and Mr. Framjee Nusserwanjee—or at least pay it into an account in their name in some bank if they were willing that that should be done; and it might then be held by them for a certain time to be named, and in the interval there might either be a reconstruction or some satisfactory arrangement come to with some other company; and, if this was not done the money should be handed back. (A Policy-holder—That is quite sufficient.) We might hand our premium when due to these gentlemen, and that it seems to me is sufficient, and the wisest thing to do. I think it would be rather hazardous to pay it to a committee, for the committee cannot legally receive it; and you cannot pay it to yourselves, for the directors would say you are not entitled to your money unless you have paid the premium to us.

Mr. Souter—Could the money not be paid to the secretary?

Mr. Cleveland—The secretary no longer acts as secretary. He will say, "As secretary I cannot receive the money, but I am authorised to receive it for the official liquidator," and he would give a receipt for it on behalf of the official liquidator. (A Policy-holder—That is quite satisfactory.) The directors will place it to their account and they will run the risk for themselves, for if an order comes from the official liquidator to send the money off immediately they will say that they consider it their duty to do their utmost for the unfortunate shareholders—if they are unfortunate, and the question is, if they are so. They will at once write home to the official liquidator and request him to telegraph out whether they may receive the money on these terms, and if the terms of the reply are not satisfactory they will call the policy-holders together and say, "Here is your money, for we cannot receive it on such terms." That I think is the best course that the policy-holders can adopt.

Dr. Diver thought nothing could be more satisfactory than that. From what he knew of the directors in Bombay he should have no hesitation in placing the utmost confidence in them.

Mr. Cleveland said that the directors had had considerable discussion as to whether they could not receive the premia upon these terms he had just stated. The official liquidator might say—"You have received so much money for us; we want it sent; you cannot hold the money without my (the official liquidator's) consent." But the directors intended not to send home the premia and he thought the shareholders would be safe to pay on that understanding.

A Voice—We are extremely obliged to Mr. Cleveland for his advice in the matter. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Souter thought the next step would be to appoint some competent gentleman at home to look after their interests there, and as there were a large number of shareholders present he thought they should do so now.

The Chairman—After Mr. Cleveland's satisfactory statement that is nearly the only step to be taken, and I think there is very little for the committee to do.

Dr. Anderson thought that they should define the duties of the committee before they separated. This committee certainly were taking on themselves some measure of responsibility.

Mr. Spencer remarked that this was a subject of importance, but Mr. Cleveland had given them some advice and that had not yet been considered. What he was to suggest was that Mr. Cleveland's advice should be put in such a form that those who were away from them should know that this meeting recommended all policy-holders to follow that course—for he knew there were some who had very great doubts as to what course they should take.

Mr. Cleveland—Would it not be better to frame a resolution that this meeting recommend that such and such things be done? It occurs to me that really what is wanted now is not a committee in Bombay but that some gentleman at home be immediately appointed on behalf of the policy-holders to send out particulars as to the condition of the company.

Mr. Summers—In connection with the Calcutta committee?

Mr. Cleveland—I think not, but independent of Calcutta. Let him be some one who could attend the meetings and represent the policy-holders and communicate to us what has been done.

In the course of some conversation, Mr. Cleveland asked whether Mr. Manisty, (of the firm of Manisty and Hurrell) would take the appointment?

Mr. Hurrell replied that his partner had gone home for only a short time, but he could get some one to act for them in London. If he (Mr. H.) were to suggest any one he would propose the solicitors who always acted for him in London, and who had telegraphed out to him about this company stating that they were already acting for policey-holders at home and asking if he could get any one in Bombay to join them.

Some one suggested Mr. Anstey, but Mr. Cleveland remarked he would not like to pin his faith on him.

Mr. A. Taylor thought it could be left to the committee to appoint some one at home to act for them, and the sooner the appointment was made the better.

Mr. Cleveland—Sir Alexander Grant is a large policy-holder. He would be a very able man, but I am afraid he is in Edinburgh.

Mr. Souter—Oh, I hear Lord Napier is a policy-holder, perhaps he will act for us. (A laugh.)

It was then moved by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Dr. Anderson, and agreed—"That the committee recently appointed be authorized to appoint an agent in London to act in the interests of the policy-holders."

Dr. Trestrail said there was no funds for all this, and money would be required, and unless the policy-holders would sign their names that they would pay so much on their policies he believed this would not come to anything.

Dr. Edginton begged to second the proposal of Dr. Trestrail, and that each policy-holder should sign a paper agreeing to pay Rs. 2 on every Rs. 1,000 insured, so as to put the committee in funds.

After a deal of desultory talk,

Mr. Trestrail said—What I have to say now is this, that supposing the committee were to act it is impossible they could do so without funds; but the proposition I was to make would rather bind us down to pay more than we would wish to pay. The policies in this company are to a great extent mortgaged, there are a great many held by shroffs and nobody knows who—(laughter)—Marwarrees and everything (renewed laughter)—and those insured have no interest in the policies.

Mr. Hurrell—Well, the Marwarree has.

Dr. Trestrail—In such cases the insured has no interest in paying his premium—(a laugh)—and so it would not be fair to make some pay for all. Therefore I think a committee should be asked to advertise and find out who are the policy-holders and ask them personally whether they will come forward or not, for it is hard we should pay for all those fellows who have mortgaged their insurance. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Hurrell—I don't exactly see the force of the argument I must confess. Though a man has mortgaged his policy it does not follow he has no interest in it. It may be he has sold it, then the buyer has an interest, but if it is mortgaged the policy-holder does have an interest in it—he must have; and I take it if he has no interest in it he would not take an interest in the proceedings of this meeting. I can't see the force of the argument.

Dr. Trestrail—If we pass a resolution saying we will be responsible for the expenses we take the responsibility off the shoulders of anybody else.

Mr. Hurrell—No man is bound by being at this meeting.

Mr. Summers—Well, I should like to see it in black and white. Some years ago the question was mooted and I suggested Re. 1 per Rs. 1,000 and some one wrote to me I might pay it myself. (A laugh.)

The Chairman—But the proposal is that every man should sign his name at once, and if he has no interest he need not sign.

Dr. Anderson—But Dr. Trestrail's objection is that those who sign would have to pay for all.

Mr. Summers—I think the best plan would be to put forward Dr. Trestrail's resolution and let it be to pay Re. 1 in every Rs. 1,000, and those who are inclined to pay that rate can then agree to do so.

Mr. Edginton—That has already been done and I have seconded it, and the proposal for Rs. 2 per Rs. 1,000 has been before the meeting for the last quarter of an hour.

Dr. Trestrail—Yes, but I think that is a very expensive plan, and I suggest now that the committee which has been named should advertise and ask who will bear the expenses.

Mr. Edginton—I have no doubt that many who are not present will see the report of this meeting and contribute. I happened to be one of the unfortunate shareholders of the Alliance Financial, and a somewhat similar proceeding was taken in that case. Those who who were at the meeting agreed to contribute and many others joined, and the expenses of the legal proceedings were contributed in that manner. I propose that the same should be done in this case, and am perfectly willing to give the rate on my policy and do not anticipate that I will be liable for others. Some who are present may not sign, and I fancy the proceedings do not bind those who are present and do not sign.

Dr. Trestrail—Could the committee not advertise?

The Chairman—Yes, but it is desirable to have a beginning as soon as possible.

Mr. Edgington—And with that intention I have brought a note in my pocket and am ready to table it—(producing a currency note amid laughter.)

The Chairman then put the motion to the meeting for a contribution of Rs. 2 per Rs. 1,000 moved by Dr. Trestrail and seconded by Mr. Edginton.

Dr. Trestrail—That's not my motion. (Laughter.)

Dr. Anderson—Well, it will be mine. I will move it and stick to it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Summers—This bears reference only to those in this room, and I beg to propose that it should be made general to all in Bombay.

The Chairman—Well, that is what is intended, but those who sign here will start it; and Mr. Hurrell has been good enough to prepare a paper which those present can sign at once,—and then the paper can lie at this office and those who are willing can sign it if in town and others can intimate their readiness by letter.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried by a large majority, and the Chairman then read the following heading of a subscription paper which had been prepared by Mr. Hurrell:—

"We, the undersigned policy-holders in the Albert Life Assurance Company, hereby authorize Messrs. Souter, G. A. Summers, Edward Morriss, Col. Hatch, N. Spencer, A. Edginton, A. Crawford, and T. Diver, the committee appointed at the meeting held this day, to act for us in all matters connected with the above company, and we agree to pay Rs. 2 per Rs. 1,000 on the amount of our policies for defraying necessary expenses—dated this 27th day of August 1869."

This was all the business. At the close of the meeting a large number of the policy-holders signed the list of Dr. Trestrail stating that he would not sign unless two-thirds of the policy-holders in Bombay did so.

PREMCHUND ROYCHUND'S TWENTY-FIVE LAKH LOAN.

The hearing of the first of the suits by the old Bank of Bombay against several of the other banks in town whose managers attended the meeting on the 27th April 1866, when the loan of 25 lakhs was granted to Premchund Roychund was proceeded with in the High Court before Mr. Justice Westropp and Sir Charles Sargent on Friday afternoon—the claim being for Rs. 1,96,620 from the Oriental Bank.

Messrs. Pigot, Scoble, and Green (instructed by Messrs. Rimington, Hore, and Langley) appeared for the plaintiffs, and the Advocate-General, and Messrs. Marriott and McCulloch (instructed by Messrs. Acland, Prentis, and Bishop) for the defence.

On their Lordships taking their seats on Friday morning,

Ardaseer Hormarjee Wadia, partner of the firm of B. & A. Hormarjee, was called, and he deposed that he knew Candas Narrondas in April 186

Mr. Scoble then put the question—What was Candas's standing as a mercantile man in April 1866?

Mr. Marriott objected to this examination, which he did not think was usual.

Mr. Scoble replied that there had been some cross-examination as to Candas's standing, and he had called this witness to speak to that point.

Mr. Justice Westropp said his brother judge thought it possible that the turn the argument might take for the defendant would be this—that he relied exclusively on the securities of land and jewels because (he would probably say) Candas and Cursondas were in difficulties, or men of straw—and in that point of view it might become important for the plaintiffs to establish their undertaking, and under these circumstances he thought Mr. Marriott should not object.

The objection was then withdrawn, and

Witness said that in April 1866 Candas's credit was very good. He traded under the firm of Mooteechund Rugoonath, an old firm.

His Lordship—Rugoonathdass, was it not?

Witness—Yes, Rugoonathdas a very old established firm.

His Lordship—I think we have heard in old proceedings here that it has gone through three or four generations at least.

Witness further deposed that he knew Cursondas Madhowdass, a large trader, very slightly, and should say he was in fair credit. He also knew Roychund Deepchund. He was considered to have been *made* a wealthy man—made wealthy by his son and others. Roychund was not originally a wealthy man before, but was so when these large tradings were going on. It was the general opinion that Roychund was a wealthy man, but that his wealth was derived from his son and others. Ever since witness knew him he had acted as a general broker in Bombay, not particularly for the Bank of Bombay, but for all the banks, and for any body.

Mr. Scoble—You are a very large owner of landed property, Mr. Ardaseer?—A. Not *very* large.

Mr. Scoble—Well, making all allowance for your modesty, you have a good deal?

Witness (with a laugh)—Well *some*, not a *good* deal.

Mr. Scoble—Perhaps not much as you would like (laughter)—but you have sold a good deal during the last few years?—A. Not much. In fact during the palmy days I have sold it at exorbitant rates, to Premchund too and others.

Q. You have bought it back since?

Witness—Not much. I sold a house to Premchund Roychund at a lakh of rupees that cost me Rs. 18,000, and I have also sold a very large property, only land, to Premchund Roychund for Rs. 1,20,000 or Rs. 1,25,000 —which I do not think yielded more than about Rs. 600 or Rs. 700 a year,—and he paid me by a cheque when the conveyance was completed.

Mr. Scoble—Now, Mr. Ardaseer, you have told us about the high prices that were allowed for land. When did the prices begin to fall?

Witness—From the middle of 1866. I date the fall of the value of land from the fall of the Agra and Commercial Banks. The depreciation was very rapid, and the low prices have continued up to the present time, though there may have been a spurt here and there.

Mr. Justice Westropp—Are the prices lower now than before what you call the palmy days, or are they about what they were before those days?

Witness—I consider the prices lower than in the palmy days. In the palmy days there was an immense rise.

His Lordship—Yes, we know that. But I speak of the prices in 1862. Are they lower now than in 1862?—A. I consider they are about the same.

His Lordship—The prices have merely gone back to what they were before Bombay became insane?—A. Yes.

Mr. Scoble then asked as to the prices at which the Elphinstone Circle property and the Esplanade ground was sold to Government and resold under the Government conditions.

The Advocate General remarked that the prices of land could not be judged by the cost of choice lands. He believed the property at Malabar Hill was higher in price.

Mr. Scoble—I hope you are not going to invest.

The Advocate General—I am judging by rents.

Mr. Scoble—But the rents Europeans have to pay are very fallacious. (A laugh.)

Witness was then examined as to the rise and fall of the prices of property and jewels in Bombay. After cross-examination on this he was asked as to the connection of Candas, Cursondas, and Premchund, who he said were all supposed to be in one link together, so that if one went the other must. He did not think that the same remark applied to Roychund Deepchund, but thought the opinion was that though Premchund Roychund might sink Roychund Deepchund might swim. As to Premchund Roychund witness said the fact was that during the low prices after the first crisis he had the pluck to go into speculation and made a good deal, then that made him still bolder, and then he went at it in a gigantic style. (Laughter).

Mr. Justice Westropp read the notes that he had taken of this, which stated—that Premchund to a great extent retrieved his fortune and made him bolder, and he speculated in the beginning of 1866 on a gigantic scale and that brought him down.

Mr. Scoble—I understood the witness, my lord, to say, not that Premchund retrieved his fortune but that he made another fortune.

THE CHARGE OF CONTEMPT AGAINST THE "INDIAN DAILY NEWS."

On the 19th instant the Advocate-General at Calcutta obtained a rule calling on the printer of the *Indian Daily News* to show cause why he should not be committed for contempt of court in having published a certain letter with reference to the case of the *Queen* vs. *Sheppard*, pending before the court. The rule was returnable on August 24.

On the case being called upon—

The Advocate-General said he had not been able to ascertain that any learned member of the bar had been retained on behalf of the printer of the *Indian Daily News*; and he did not even know whether he was present in court.

Mr. Gomes came forward, and put in an affidavit made by him in reference to the case, which was as follows:—

"IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, AT FORT WILLIAM, IN BENGAL.

"I, Joseph Manuel Gomes, of Bankshall Street, in Calcutta, printer, make oath and say—

"First.—I am the printer and publisher of the *Indian Daily News* newspaper.

"Second.—That James Wilson is the editor of the said newspaper, and that all articles, letters, and other communications inserted therein, are subject to his orders.

"Third.—That the said James Wilson has signified to me his willingness to admit that the letter, for the publication of which I am hereto cited, was inserted and published in the said newspaper by his direction.

"Fourth.—That I exercise no control whatever over the contents of the said newspaper.

"Fifth.—That I read the said letter when handed to me for publication, but, without considering its purport, inserted it, simply in accordance with my duty as a servant.

"Sixth.—That in inserting the said letter, I was not actuated by any improper feeling towards the Hon'ble the Chief Justice or any of the Justices of this Hon'ble Court; nor did I intend, by such insertion, in any way to excite contempt against the proceedings of this Hon'ble Court.—J. M. GOMES."

The affidavit was handed to the Bench; and, on perusal, his lordship (Mr. Justice Phear) said, "I perceive that Mr. Wilson takes upon himself the responsibility of the publication."

The Advocate-General, reading the affidavit, said he perceived that the fourth clause was the material one, in which the printer declares that he has no control over what appears in the paper. In that case he presumed the course would be to obtain a rule against Mr. Wilson, who accepted the responsibility.

Mr. Wilson came forward and said that he accepted the responsibility, and had no wish to occupy the time of the court by any needless formalities. He would accept the rule served upon the printer as served against himself; and if it were agreeable to the court, he should prefer that the case be proceeded with at once.

The court having consented, Mr. Wilson said it was not his intention to occupy the time of the court at any length, as it was not his intention to contest any legal points. He admitted the technical contempt, and all he wished to do was to submit to the court some considerations why the offence should not be deemed one calling for severity of punishment. With the permission of the court he would do so.

His Lordship—Certainly.

Mr. Wilson, in the course of his address to the court, said—The first public notice of the charge against young Sheppard appeared in the *Englishman* of July 28th. On the morning of this publication, Mr. Sheppard called at my office with a letter, and asked if I thought it right to drag him and his connections before the public in such a way, and begged me to insert a letter by way of reply, and it was sent up for publication. Mr. Sheppard came again in the evening, and asked to be allowed to withdraw the letter. He said he was a very excitable man, and felt strongly the injustice of such remarks both as regarded himself and his son. But he had been advised to withdraw the letter, and wished to do so. In the meantime the case against young Sheppard was heard in the magistrate's court at Alipore, and naturally became a topic of conversation in the city. On the 17th of the present month Mr. Sheppard again came to me with a manuscript, and complained of the injustice that was being done to himself and his son by continual reports and remarks in the spirit of those that had appeared in the *Englishman*. The remarks of the *Englishman* were reprinted in the *Indian Examiner*, and allusions were made to the case by the *Friend of India*, all assuming the guilt of his son, whom he believed to be innocent. He thought, in common fairness, he should be allowed to decry these assumptions, for the affair was referred at every dinner-table, and the guilt of his son assumed because he had been named in the *Englishman* and other papers, and he (Mr. Sheppard) had never uttered a word in favour of his son. His feelings were constantly outraged by these observations, and he desired to make a manifestation or declaration on behalf of his son with a view to prevent prejudice against him, or that injustice to which such prejudice might lead. He asked for the insertion of the manuscript "in some form."

I submit the manuscript to the court, with the explanation that, in the insertion of letters bearing the signature of the writer, I habitually make as few alterations as possible, that the writers who thus authenticate their letters may speak in their own language. The alterations are made in red ink, and your lordship will perceive that the only material alterations made are the omission of three lines referring to the police, and three other lines on the *Englishman*, which I have considerably modified. And here I may be allowed to urge that, in the exercise of those valuable functions exercised by the press, it is of great public advantage to give the fullest expression of opinion: so much so, that the press is recognised as the fourth estate of the realm. But it is a recognised principle that the conductors of newspapers do not necessarily share the opinions of those who write in the columns usually devoted to correspondence. It is of great advantage to admit opinions through that medium, and editors natually give great latitude to correspondents. Were it not so, and every letter sent were shaped into the views or policy of the papers, there could be no public opinion whatever, or it would be simply opinion dictated by editors of newspapers. it is thus that letters are sometimes published, which may, from a strictly legal point of view, be deemed libellous or contemptuous, without any intention on the part of that publisher to commit contempt.

And here I should take the liberty of submitting to the court that the essence of offence consists chiefly in design. Effects many follow from causes, and the effect may be of offence which is not designed. But surely it must make a material difference in the degree of offence. The only design of publishing the letter of Mr. Sheppard was to afford him an opportunity, as he says, "to arrest the promulgation of fictitious statements and falsified reports." This could not be on the part of the printer and publisher a designed interference with the administration of justice or contempt of court.

The justification of the statements of the letter itself does not arise now, and, for reasons already given, should not be entered into. But assuming a possibility of the effect of the publication of the letter being to obstruct or interfere with the course of justice, it must be in a very minute degree. It is a well understood fact that the weight attached to expressions of opinion is much greater than that accorded to correspondence—not perhaps that the writing is superior, but that editorial articles are known or supposed to be the work of competent and well-informed writers, and that they are further subject to editorial revision by minds trained to habitual judgment.

Now, if any intention had existed to show contempt towards the court by publication of matter designed to influence the course of justice, naturally the means to be adopted would have been those which are known to be most influential, and the statements would have been made with the full weight of editorial position. Instead of this, the manuscript, as the court will observe, was ordered to be inserted as a letter, being expressive of very warm and not unnatural paternal feeling. As such, I have reason to believe it has been generally regarded. It may not be a wise letter or a judicious one, if designed to effect that the object suggested by these proceedings. In that case it is a letter more foolish than criminal; for it is not to be supposed that the expressions of strong feeling by an excited parent on behalf of his son would influence a proceeding presided over by the accomplished and experienced judge in the High Court in a case where there will also doubtless be engaged some of those learned gentlemen who are high in their profession and ornaments of the Indian bar. These are safeguards against failure in the administration of justice in this court. I have every confidence in it, and cannot give a better proof of that confidence than I now do in submitting unreservedly to its judgment. I accept the legal responsibility of the offence; and I throw upon the court the moral responsibility of the punishment which should attach to it in degree. And this I do in the fullest confidence that your lordship will pronounce such a judgment and make such an award as shall maintain the dignity of this honourable court; as will be just to me as an unintentional offender against that dignity, and as may consist with the court's relations to that higher court of which I have the honour to be a humble and, it may be, an unworthy member.

Mr. Justice Phear—It dealing with this matter, I am particularly desirous that I should do nothing to make it appear that this court is unduly sensitive about its dignity or over-anxious for its authority. No one can be more convinced than I am that if the judges of this court fail to command respect by the faithful and difficult discharge of their functions, they will never enforce it by the exercise of arbitrary power. The proceeding which the learned Advocate-General has instituted is not, as I understand it, intended so much for the vindication of the dignity and authority of the court as it is necessary for protecting the working of our criminal procedure. That is, the printing of this letter is not so much complained of as a contempt of the dignity of this court or of the authority of its judges, as an attempt to interfere with a criminal trial actually pending before the highest court of criminal judicature in this presidency: and, as I read this letter, it amounts to a denunciation of the witnesses who were about to give evidence in the case as perjurers, and of the officers of Government as suborners of perjury. Early in the letter appears this passage—"It is stated that the men whose depositions were taken by the magistrate of Alipore have been bribed to make allegations which have been recorded as evidence in support of the prosecution, but which statements are devoid of truth." Then later—"No motive existed for the commission of so serious a crime as that of dacoity, of which he stands falsely charged. The commission of such a crime in so open a manner, and conducted according to the statements of the suborned witnesses on behalf of the prosecution in so careless a way as to render the alleged act of dacoity conspicuous in the extreme, and in the face of a large and mixed population, is quite opposed to the first law of nature, self-preservation." And lastly—"Never was a more diabolical attempt made to destroy the character of as noble-hearted and enterprising a young man as ever lived, and nothing could be more disgraceful than the manner in which this false and unfounded charge has been got up and beautifully embellished."

Now, when a letter containing passages like this appears in a daily newspaper of large circulation and deserved popularity, on the very morning when the Criminal Sessions open, and when, in due course, might be expected to be laid before the jury, it is inevitable to conclude it was intended to influence the course of the trial, and to assist the defenders of the prisoner.

Mr. Wilson—Will your lordship allow me a word of explanation on one point referred to by your lordship? It never occurred to me that the Criminal Sessions opened on the morning of the 18th, the date of the appearance of Mr. Sheppard's letter. Mr. Sheppard represented to me that the letter was provoked by further references in another newspaper to the case of his son, to which he wished to give a denial, and not with any consideration of the day being that on which the Sessions would open. Certainly I had no idea that such was the case. The letter bore the name of the writer, and would, no doubt, be read with the understanding that it was the production of a partial and interested parent. Had it appeared anonymously, it might have carried with it somewhat of the appearance of editorial approval, and might, therefore, be supposed to be intended to interfere with the course of justice.

His Lordship continued—Mr. Wilson avowed that he is responsible for the publication of this letter, but at the same time has declared that no such intention as that to which I have referred, and which this letter was certainly eminently calculated to carry into effect, ever existed on his part. I am ready to accept that explanation. At the same time I cannot help saying that it is a great misfortune that such a letter was published precisely on the occasion of the Sessions opening. I am the very last person to desire to see any fetters placed on the press, but when a course is pursued which is so directly calculated to influence the administration of justice in the highest criminal court of this country, I felt that the application of the learned Advocate-General to restrain such action required to be supported. It is not so much the offensiveness of the letter as the mischief which it was calculated to produce, which makes it necessary that the court should take action upon it. I am sure no one would be more unwilling than Mr. Wilson himself to affect the impartiality of the criminal court. However, trial by jury, to be of any value, must, if possible, be kept free from the disturbing forces of such public statements as these, and a jury must not be addressed out of court in such terms as those in which this letter is couched. But as Mr. Wilson has disavowed any intention of so addressing the jury, and has said, as I understand, that it was accidental that the letter appeared on the morning of the Sessions opening, I shall ask the learned Advocate-General if he presses the matter of the rule against him.

The Advocate-General said that though he could not concur in the views expressed by Mr. Wilson in relation to the expression of public opinion, he left, &c.

Mr. Justice Phear—I did not observe whether the rule is so expressed as to leave me an option between committal or discharge.

The Advocate-General—Yes, your lordship. It says, "Be otherwise dealt with according to law."

Mr. Justice Phear—I do not remember such a case before. I should like to ask whether any member of the bar has knowledge of any precedent.

There being no response—

Mr. Justice Phear resumed—I think, under the circumstances, it will be sufficient if I inflict a fine, which will be in some respects nominal, simply as an expression of the opinion of the court. Probably a fine of Rs. 50 will be sufficient. As it happened, the trial did not take place. I wish it to be understood that I mean it to be considered a nominal, and not a substantial, fine.

Mr. Wilson was fined Rs. 50.

The *Indian Daily News* of the 26th inst. says—During the interval between the commencement and the close of the proceedings against us in respect of the alleged contempt of court, we deemed it the most respectful course to abstain from even a remote allusion to the case. We felt no hesitation as to what it became us to do under the circumstances into which we inadvertently fell. Our difficulties only began with the close of the case. Scarcely had we reached the office, when a note was received, enclosing the amount of the fine which the court had imposed. During the day we had numerous offers of contributions towards the same end, which we felt it proper to decline.

DEBATE ON INDIA

IN THE COMMONS

[FOLLOWING MR. GRANT DUFF'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT ON AUGUST 3.]

MR. CRAWFORD said his hon. friend in the course of his very able and lucid speech had referred to matters of great moment to one who like himself had passed many years of his life in India, and who still felt great interest in that country. He should like to say a few words upon the demand now made by the Secretary of State for India to use his borrowing powers, and to the great change in the policy of the Indian Government in regard to the manner in which railways were in future to be constructed and worked in India. It appeared that the Indian Government required to raise this year a sum of about £5,000,000, of which £3,500,000 was required for carrying on various extraordinary works for India, £1,000,000 for paying the debt, and £500,000 for replenishing the cash balances in India. By the Bill which would come on for discussion at the evening sitting his hon. friend would ask the House to authorise the Secretary of State to raise between the present time and April 30, 1872, the large sum of £8,000,000 sterling for the service of India. He wished now to advert to the manner in which that power was likely to be exercised, judging from the past. In 1863 the then Secretary of State for India came before Parliament for authority to raise a similar sum of £8,000,000, to replace various debts that had been incurred in this country. He went into the market at his own convenience, and the public knew nothing of the demand that was made on it. In the language of the Stock-Exchange, the Secretary for India "turned on the tap when he wanted to raise money." If, however, he wanted money, it would be better that he should come into the market and say how much he wanted, in which case, by inducing competition he would raise money on better terms. His hon. friend had referred to the public debt of India, which he stated was £62,000,000. He also alluded to a paper, which had been laid upon the table two or three weeks ago, giving the details of that debt from which it appeared that the securities were of various forms and denominations, extending as far back as 1824-5. Some of the loans were of very small amount, and if measures could be taken for consolidating these into one single debt he believed that considerable advantage would be gained. The ultimate repayment of principal might be secure, and also the payment of interests meanwhile, but with small stocks not easily marketable a loss was always entailed on those holders who found it necessary to realise. If the loans were consolidated into one modern stock the public would not alone be pleased, but the value of the security would doubtless be increased. (Hear, hear.) As to the export duties it was perfectly true, as stated by his hon. friend, that they were few in number, but they were levied, contrary to all sound principles, on some of the principal commodities exported from India. Every 82lb. of grain exported—and this country drew from thence a great deal of grain in the shape of rice and for consumption in distillation—incurred a charge of 3 rupees, or 6s., before it left India, the effect of which was not merely to limit our access to the Indian market, but to diminish the sales of the producer of grain. That portion of the indigo crop produced in Madras had to encounter a sharp competition here with the indigo grown in Central America; yet while the Madras indigo had to pay 3 rupees for every 82lb., that which came from Guatemala and other Central States was free, being produced on the continent of America. Moreover, these very commodities, taxed so heavily on their export from India, had already paid a heavy tax to the Government in the assessment of the soil upon which they were grown. There were other commodities to which reference might be made, but he had said enough, he thought, to show that the continued levy of these charges was attended with positive disadvantage to Indian interests. (Hear, hear.) A new railway policy for India had been announced in another place by the noble duke the Secretary of State: and that policy was described more fully in the despatch upon the table. No opportunity, however, had been given to the House of Commons of perusing this despatch till Saturday last, though there was reason to believe that it had been for some time in readiness; the report of Mr. Danvers on the Indian railways had been ready, to his own knowledge, for some time before it was published. (Hear.) The House had a right to expect that these documents would be placed before them in sufficient time to enable them to be perused and considered, and these should not have been, he must almost say, withheld until so late a period of the Session. (Hear.) He believed the view taken in that despatch was based upon a minute by Lord Lawrence, dictated by a single view of what was for the benefit of India. A new state of things had arisen, and the Government were perfectly justified in seizing the present opportunity of considering whether they could not extend the railway system by a principle of action different from that which had hitherto been followed. The only exception which he took to the action of the Government was that they appeared to ground this new policy on something like a condemnation of the existing system. (Hear.) As he understood the present attitude of the Government, their contention was, that as hitherto no money had been found for the construction of railways in India except on the security of the Government, and as the rate guaranteed for raising money in the market had been uniformly 5 per cent., whereas the Government themselves could borrow money at 4 per cent., they were losers of 1 per cent. upon the transaction. The Government also alleged that the railway companies had constructed their lines—as it was called in India—departmentally; that was to say, by means of contractors, acting under the direction and supervision of the engineers and staff of the companies. Contractors had been employed in this country and sent out; and it was suggested that these measures could as well be taken by the Government as by the companies. It was further alleged that the process of construction by the companies heretofore had been needlessly extravagant and costly, and that the working was extravagant, ill-managed, and profitless. He admitted the necessity of a Government guarantee to raise money for works in India, but the remainder of the argument he denied. When it was represented, for instance, that it had cost 5 per cent. to raise the money for constructing, and that the Government guarantee accordingly was the sole test of the value of the railway property, he pointed to the fact that there were different railway companies whose shares commanded, not an uniform, but different values in the market. (Hear, hear.) The stock of the line with which he was connected was selling for 111, whereas the stocks of the other Indian companies as a rule did not fetch more than 105 or 106. If the Government guarantee of 5 per cent. were the sole test of value they would all be exactly equal in price. (Hear, hear.) There was another element which had been left out of sight, and that was the element of speculation that the profits arising from the railways would exceed 5 per cent., as they had already done in two or three instances. In the course of the last year and the present year, the company with which he was connected had occasion to raise £2,000,000. The Government said, "It is unreasonable in you to ask us to guarantee 5 per cent., because you will issue the stock at a large premium, which you will then put into your own pockets." The company felt the objection to be a reasonable one; but they urged the Government not to make a difference in the rate of interest hitherto guaranteed, and undertook to pay over the gain of £110,000, obtained by the issue of the stock at the current price, into the hands of the Secretary of State, to form part of the capital of the company to which the Government guarantee would not attach, because it was not the property of any individual shareholders. There was one passage in the minute of Lord Lawrence which he thought had been written without due care or consideration, and was certainly unjust to the railway companies. His lordship stated that their capital was an investment from which a return was guaranteed under all circumstances, and that in some cases even a wasteful outlay might be directly advantageous to the officials, as leading to the creation of stock. The meaning of this was that the shareholders and managers of these railway companies were indifferent to the sums which they expended on the construction of railways, because the more they expended, and the more stock they got out, the more they would make in the way of profit in placing these shares in the market. He ventured to assert that out of the £80,000,000 raised in this country for the construction of India railways there had been no larger outlay or allowance than fairly covered the expense of placing these shares in the market. (Hear, hear.) The whole of that money had been paid over, and not a single farthing had been kept for their own profit. He fully admitted that there were times when the Government might go into the market and borrow money at 4 per cent., but there were other times when they could not do so. During 1859, when the Indian Government was unable to obtain money on reasonable terms in the market, the railway companies were enabled to raise large sums at a moderate rate of interest, partly no doubt because they could offer the security of the Government guarantee, but also because they could offer, in addition, the tangible security of valuable property. Under these circumstances it could not be said that the Government were in a better position to raise money than the private railway companies. The Indian railway companies had been charged with reckless extravagance in the construction of their lines. He would lay before the Committee a few facts which, he thought, would show that that charge was entirely unfounded. It appeared from Mr. Danvers's report—which was issued on Saturday last, and which divided the cost of the construction of these Indian lines into its several elements—that the East Indian Railway Company had constructed their 1,500 miles, 600 being double and the rest single lines, at a cost of less than £20,000 per mile; and that the Madras Railway Company, also a single line, had constructed their line at a cost of less than £11,000 per mile. The great difference between the cost per mile of these two railways was accounted for by the fact that the latter, while having an excellent management, had none of the engineering difficulties to encounter, which had rendered the construction of the former line so costly. Another cause of the great cost of the construction of the East Indian Railway was the Indian mutiny, which had increased that cost by a total of three millions sterling. The expense of the conveyance of materials had been enormously increased by the mutiny, and a large portion of the original line had been destroyed, no less than 17,000 tons of rails being removed and thrown into the river. £500,000 had to be expended upon the erection of a steamboat pier for the purpose of sending the materials up the river during that period, and the total extra cost resulting from the mutiny might be safely put at £2,000 per mile. It must not be forgotten, in calculating the cost of the Indian railways, that they had to pay enormous sums for conveying from this country the materials necessary for building their bridges. The East Indian Railway had constructed no less than three miles of iron bridges, one being nearly four-fifths of a mile in length, and the whole of the materials for erecting those works had been sent out from this country, at a total cost for conveyance of nearly three millions. Then there was the enormous cost of European superintendence and the high wages paid to European engine-drivers to be taken into consideration. It was not improbable that the Indian railways might have made mistakes in the construction of lines for the first time over the vast continent of India, but the Government would be warned by those mistakes, and would, therefore, be to a certain degree benefited by them, and for any mistakes they had committed the Government were responsible equally with themselves, because the Government had superintended every step that the companies had taken. Instead of the cost of the construction of the Indian railways having been extravagant, he contended that it was a remarkable circumstance that this large sum had been so faithfully administered. With reference to the subject of the cost of working the Indian railways, he would call the attention of the Committee to the return laid before the last half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the East India Railway Company, comparing the working expenses and receipts of that railway with those of 13 of the principal railways in this country. The real test of the prosperity of a railway company was its mileage receipts, its mileage cost, and its mileage net receipts. Judged by this test, during the half-year ending the 31st of December last the East Indian Railway Company appeared, out of every hundred pounds earned, to have expended £41 for working expenses, leaving £59 profit; while the London and North-Western Railway Company had expended £46 per cent. for working expenses, the average expenditure under the head of the whole of the English railway companies being £49 per cent. It was impossible, under these circumstances, to contend that the management of the Indian railways was expensive as compared with that of other countries, and the Government of India when asserting that that management was guilty of profligate extravagance was doing it a great injustice. It had been alleged by the Indian Government that the Indian railway companies were desirous of increasing their capital in order to reap the benefit that might accrue from such increase; but it was the fact that the East Indian Railway Company had positively refused to undertake the construction of a bridge over the Hooghly at Calcutta which the Government wished to put upon them, and which would have rendered it necessary that their capital should have been increased by 1½ million. They had also declined to undertake the construction of a line from Cawnpore to Lucknow and another from Delhi to Lahore. The only object of the management of that company was to develope and utilize their resources, and to do the best they could for their shareholders. The Government were justified in taking upon themselves the construction of lines not likely to prove very remunerative through native States, which political reasons rendered necessary; but he deprecated their entering upon great operations of this character merely for economical reasons. It was impossible that the Government could either construct or work railways in as economical a manner as a private company could do. What would be the effect of the Government going into the market to purchase 10,000 or 15,000 tons of rails? Why, not only the price of iron but the cost of freight would be immediately raised. Whereas the Government, for their own protection, were compelled to buy by public tender, private companies could purchase what they required for the construction of their lines by ordinary contract, usually at a much lower price than the Government would have to pay. The desire of the Indian Government to get possession of these lines was simply one evidence that the old exclusive policy had not yet altogether died out. The companies, by resisting the autocratic commands of the Government, had incurred its hostility. Once these lines passed under Government control nothing more would be heard about them, and the public interest in them would be quenched. There still remained the question of the extent of the intended operations of the Government with respect to these lines to be considered. It was proposed that 10,000 miles of new lines should be constructed at a cost of £120,000,000. He did not believe that the Indian Government would be able to obtain the necessary amount of money for the construction of railway in India at the rate they expected,—namely 4 per cent. He also wished to point out that had railway construction been in the hands of the Government at the time of the Mutiny in India the works would not have been proceeded with, as the whole attention of the Government was directed to quell the Mutiny, whereas the railway companies continued the construction of the railways, notwithstanding the Mutiny, and were enabled to assist the Government by the facilities afforded by such portions of the lines as were constructed. He took the opportunity of calling the attention of the Under-Secretary for India to the manner in which the telegraph service with India was carried on. Last year a convention on this subject was held at Vienna, and every State on the Continent of Europe, together with England, was represented at that convention. One of the terms there agreed on for the conduct of the telegraphic business was that every message should be sent in the order in which it was received; but subsequently it was ascertained that Mr. Reuter had made terms at Constantinople with the Turkish Government, giving him, in spite of the convention, an advantage over everybody else. He therefore trusted that the Under-Secretary for India would take steps to put an end to that monstrous injustice. (Hear, hear.)

Sir S. Northcote said that, as there was other important business on the paper, he would not waste time by complimenting his hon. friend, the Under-Secretary for India, on the excellent speech he had delivered, but would at once notice an expression which was not characterized by the same exactness as the rest of the hon. gentleman's observations. The hon. gentleman spoke of two complaints against the Government of India, which, he thought, neutralized each other. One was that the Government did not do enough to develope the great resources of the Indian Empire, and the other was that the Government were rather exceeding their income. The hon. gentleman thought that those two charges might answer each other; but that was not strictly the case, for it might happen that the Government, though exceeding their income, were not by economy saving means to improve the resources of the country. (Hear, hear.) That was a danger which the Government of India should guard against. There was a magnificent field in India for the development of the resources of that empire, but care should be taken to provide by prudent economy the power to effect that object. In April last Sir R. Temple, in an able speech strongly impressed on the attention of the Government the necessity of making a distinction between reproductive and non-productive works—between those which might be carried on with borrowed money and those which should not be carried on by such means. That was a distinction which the Indian Council and himself desired to draw last year, and the principle they proposed to go on was to allow nothing to be provided for out of borrowed money except expenditure on reproductive works. (Hear, hear.) If money was borrowed and expended in works which the Government believed they were justified in carrying on with borrowed money, they ought to take measures to see that they were reproductive, by having well selected works and keeping separate accounts of separate works. If they adopted that principle they might borrow freely. There was another principle which they must not lose sight of—they must take care that in their ordinary balances of income and expenditure they kept a good surplus of income over expenditure; because in India, as in every other country, there were contingencies against which they must provide. The only safe policy, therefore, was to keep a really good margin of income over expenditure. That involved both economy and the careful maintenance of their resources. He believed the principle of the income-tax was a great, a bold, and a wise step. It required some sacrifice on the part of the Government of India. There was great temptation to put off works, owing to the necessity of raising funds by what was considered an unpopular tax. He hoped they might look to a fair surplus. With regard to items of taxation, he would not say any more than that he most cordially agreed with what his hon. friend the member for the City had said of export duties. He hoped the time would come when they would get rid of duties which were wrong in principle, and very injurious to India as well as to the trade of this country. With regard to railways, he entirely sympathized with his hon. friend in the expressions he had used and the spirited defence he had made for the existing companies. He sympathized with him as to the want of cordiality and generosity of treatment in these despatches. Considering the work done they ought not to have been treated with harshness; there should have been every acknowledgment of the services which the guaranteed companies had rendered. Assuming that they should be altogether dispensed with and that fault might be found with some details of their management, it might have been expected that a little more gratitude would have been shown to a policy initiated by so great a man as Lord Dalhousie, and which had been carried through so successfully on the whole by those who had taken part in it. His hon. friend had complained that these papers recently laid on the table had been kept back rather long from them. He did not think it was right to make that complaint, for the Duke of Argyll's despatch was only dated the 15th of July, and could not have been produced much sooner than it had been. What he regretted was that the papers had not been laid before them in a more complete form. It would have been better if the papers had extended a little further back, and if the origin of these communications had been given, for this matter had been under consideration for a year or two; and some papers had not been produced which would have thrown light upon it. A distinction had been drawn between commercial and political lines, and if the despatch to the Secretary of State referring to that subject had been produced, it would have given answers to some of the objections urged by his hon. friend. He would see that the matter had been forced on the Government; that it had become necessary to do something to systematize the railways of India. Projects came in in driblets from the Hooghly, Madras, Assam, or Bengal for the construction of railways, here or there, and the Council for India always felt it extremely important not to commit themselves to general plans, or to inconvenient expenditure. He therefore addressed a despatch to the Governor-General of India asking them to take into consideration the generals wants of India, and give a systematized plan of the works recommended—at what rate it would be possible, with reference to financial and other considerations, to carry out those works, in what order they should be proceeded with, and by what agency they should be conducted. At the same time, the Government of Sir J. Lawrence had directed their attention to the same subject. He wrote to the Government at home at the same time that the despatch of the Secretary of State was being prepared. These despatches were both independent of each other, but both came to the same conclusion—that it was desirable to come to some systematic arrangement as to what should be done, and at what rate. He hoped these papers would be printed, and that they would be able to turn their attention then more deliberately to them than was possible at present. There was a great deal yet to be considered as to the propriety of the State undertaking the whole railway management of India. It was pretty plain from expressions in the despatches that the mind of the Government of India was hankering after getting the whole system into their own hands. That policy, however, had not been adopted by the Duke of Argyll, and he hoped it would not be; but this was a point which would have to be fully considered next Session. In the meantime he was entirely satisfied with what the Government proposed to do. He had not the slightest objection to the course which the Duke of Argyll proposed to take—to raise a certain sum by way of loan, and undertaking the railways to which reference was made in the despatches. That was the principle in which he was himself entirely disposed to agree. He could not altogether adopt the glowing terms which had been used on this subject by Lord Lawrence. Lord Lawrence always took a strong view on any question—he saw one side of it very strongly and clearly, and spoke his mind strongly and ably. When action was required, that was invaluable, but when they had to take counsel, the case might be presented in too glowing colours. The noble lord talked of the expediency and importance of limiting the outlay on railways, but was he quite sure that the Government would always limit their own outlay better than the companies when they were acting under the control of the Government? The Government, no doubt, had not controlled the action of the companies, but would they be better able to control their own officers? There was a strong temptation on the part of the Government to save themselves from any outlay on their ordinary expenditure. He observed a tendency on the part of the Government of the day to put down everything they could to capital, and on the part of the Indian Government there was just as much temptation to put down all expenditure on public works as remunerative. But was it true that the Government would always keep these works going as well as the companies that undertook them? There were, if he mistook not, instances in which the Government were not quite so ready to carry on works of this kind when other and more pressing claims were made upon them. The history of the Great Trunk Railway of India did not show that the Government always proceeded very rapidly with the works they undertook. Another question was whether the Government would be able to get a proper staff and work these undertakings properly. They had the admission of Lord Lawrence that the Public Works Department was not in a proper state to undertake these works. The Indian Government had taken a great deal upon themselves. They had only just taken in hand all the irrigation works, and it was not yet known whether they could carry them on satisfactorily. They were now going to undertake the railways, and they called upon the Government at home for more assistance and for engineer officers, and the Indian Government complained that they did not receive all the assistance they ought to have. He would urge upon the Government of India that, if they were going to take these great works upon themselves, they should take care to strengthen the hands of the departments which had the execution of the work, not merely by sending out officers, but by a proper organization of these departments, and by regulating the relations between the Public Works Departments of India and those of the several presidencies; because, if jealousies existed between them, a good deal of mischief might happen. He would also urge the Government not to suspend the execution of the harbour and irrigation works which they might have in hand for these new pet railway projects. He would likewise impress upon the Government the importance of not running into debt, and of providing a proper system of account for writing off the debt. He believed that the matter was in good hands, both at home and in India. He was not afraid of the expenditure, estimated by the hon. member for the City of London at £120,000,000. If it were incurred wisely, and expended in a way to develope the resources of India. He had sanguine hopes of the future of India if the Government did its duty in promoting the moral and social progress of that country. The Government of India was a paternal Government of the very best class and its relations with its neighbours and subjects were of the most satisfactory and friendly character. They must look to the possibility of dark days, but the best way of providing for them was by developing and husbanding the resources of India, and making the people feel that we were real friends to them. Whatever the Government did, let them not overwork their departments or overstrain their finances. (Hear, hear.)

Sir C. Wingfield said he observed that for the year 1868-9 there was a deficit of about £1,000,000, and a total deficit during the last three or four years of about £4,500,000; but he thought this would disappear if the principle laid down by the late Secretary for India were carried out—namely, that all expenditure, except that which was extraordinary and strictly reproductive, should be met by income. Only by such a course could the Government meet its liabilities and preserve its credit so as to borrow the large sums required for railways and irrigation. With respect to barrack expenditure, he feared that many of the sites which had been declared to have every sanitary qualification would be found to be unhealthy, and consequently be abandoned. He did not believe that in India health was promoted by mere solidity of construction. The great want in that country was of cubical space and a current of air, and mud walls and a thatched roof were cooler than stone or brick buildings. Where the barracks now in course of construction were likely to last some time, and where they were also military stations, the work might be suspended and the Exchequer saved from any further outlay at present. There were 51 places in India where barracks were either built or building. Some were only 20 miles distant from each other, and it was worthy of consideration whether some concentration were not possible. He should like to see a return of the outlay in building barracks since the Mutiny. They had been a most frightful drain on the resources of India. He believed that the expenditure from this source was not less than £15,000,000 up to the present time. With regard to railways, he thought it probable that the strategic considerations upon which they had been laid out would undergo a change, and that new military stations would have to be undertaken. He did not believe that the European army could be reduced below its present strength, which he believed to be 62,000 men. He doubted whether the native troops would ever have revolted if they had believed there were sufficient European troops in the country to coerce them. (Hear.) He should have regarded with greater satisfaction the increase in the Indian revenue if half that increase had not been derived from opium and salt. It was stated that the Chinese Government had renewed their edicts against opium, but this he regarded as only the means of obtaining larger bribes for the officials. Across the continent of India there stretched a huge customs line, guarded by an army of several thousand officials. To the north of this line salt paid a duty of 6s. per 80lb., while to the south of the line salt was only taxed at 3s. Statistics showed that in the northern districts the consumption of salt was only at the rate of 8lb. a head, whereas to the south the consumption amounted to 13lb. a head. If the rates could be equalized, or nearly so, a considerable increase in consumption might be expected. At the same time he could not agree with the right hon. baronet opposite that the consumption of salt afforded the best test of the condition of the poorer classes, for, unlike tobacco or alcohol, a man was not likely to consume more salt than nature prompted him. He was glad to perceive that by the extension given to the quantity of roughly manufactured salt which a man might have in his possession the convictions for infractions of the salt laws had fallen nearly a thousand in number. As to the railways, he had for a long time been of opinion that a system of public companies would work most advantageously, fearing that in times of financial difficulty the construction of railways in the hands of the State would come to a standstill; and also remembering that at the time of the Mutiny a 5½ per cent. open loan did not fill. Having read the despatch, however, and the exhaustive minute on which it was based, he had come to the conclusion that the principles laid down by the Government were those which ought in future to be acted upon. The Government of India had shown a very strong case for raising such funds as were necessary upon their own credit, and they ought, he believed, to be supported in doing so. The increase in the paper currency he regarded as more apparent than real, a large proportion of it being only issued in the sense of having left the central establishment for the district offices, where it lay unissued. The true remedy had been suggested in the report of the Paper Currency Committee. Congratulating the House and the country on the improvement in the trade of India, which now imported and paid for sugar, having been a large exporter of that article only a few years ago, though everybody knew that in the meantime the breadth of land under sugar cultivation in India had been doubled, the hon. member went on to invite attention to some reforms in the public administration to which he attached much importance. The first of these was the separation of the executive and fiscal from purely judicial functions, and the restriction of all offices in the service to one or other of those branches of administration. Such a multiplicity of duties were now thrown upon a collector that it was impossible he could get through them all except by devolving the larger share of the duties upon his assistants. Another evil of the existing system was that men unless they would sacrifice pay and promotion, were constantly being transferred from one branch of the service which they thoroughly understood, and for which they were well fitted, to a totally different branch, which, perhaps, they had no taste whatever. A separation already existed in the upper branches of the administration, which ought to be continued downwards through the various stages. He would not interfere with the general apprenticeship served by a man on entering the service, which was always useful to him, but after four or five years he ought to be called upon to choose between the executive and the judicial branches, and, having done so, should be strictly confined to that which he had selected. With a view of ascertaining the opinions and feelings of the natives, and bringing these into harmony with the acts of our officials, weighed down as they were by their various duties, Sir R. Montgomery had recommended the establishment of consultative native councils. Such a course would be quite in accordance with the views of the late Lord Canning, that we should abandon "the anomalous attempt to govern a country by thrusting aside every man whose birth, position, or social influence gave him a right to share in administering its affairs." Had such councils been in existence, with the facilities which they afforded for studying native sentiment, the recent spectacle would not have been witnessed of a large number of landowners in India presenting a petition against what they conceived to be an infringement of native laws and usages, and a violation of the spirit of Her Majesty's proclamation. Such a course could not but be injurious to our reputation in the East.

Mr. R. N. Fowler expressed his indignation that nine millions of the Indian revenue should depend upon opium. Our conduct in forcing this poisonous and deleterious drug upon the Chinese was the greatest blot upon the name of the British nation. He trusted that Her Majesty's Government and the Indian authorities would endeavour so to regulate the finances of India that this large portion of its revenue should not be dependent upon the opium trade.

Mr. W. Lawson pointed out that nine millions of revenue raised from such a source inferred a corresponding waste of the best land in India, and the degradation and misery of millions of human beings, in addition to the hostility we incurred by encouraging such a trade. He did not suppose that the Indian Government would, at the present moment, make any attempt to put an end to that source of their revenue, but he trusted that in time public opinion would be roused on the subject, and that the rulers of that country would be compelled to cease from raising revenue from the vices and degradation of millions of our fellow-creatures.

Colonel Sykes remarked that this was the first occasion on which he recollected more than 40 members being present when the Indian financial statement was made, and he thought that the present comparatively large attendance was a proof that the new Parliament was taking an interest in matters connected with that gigantic empire which had been committed to our care, and for which we were responsible, both morally and physically. He was glad to hear from the statement of the hon. member that the result of reducing the amount of the assessments on land had been to largely increase the land revenue. He had always maintained that we did not levy a rent in India, but imposed a tax on the produce of the soil. With regard to the question raised by his hon. friend the member for London, he must say that the idea of the Government assuming the execution of railway works in India was by no means a new one. It was broached in the days of the East India Company, when railways in India were first spoken of, and at that time it received the support of several men who might well be considered authorities on Indian affairs. As to the army in India, it was worthy of remark that before the Mutiny the cost of the Indian army was 12 millions. Now it was 16 millions. The number of European troops in India before the Mutiny was 42,000; now it was 64,000. The native army had been diminished by 130,000 men, and the European army had been increased by 22,000. There was no good reason for this. When the Mutiny broke out it was confined to the Bengal army. The armies of Calcutta and Madras were not parties to it. The 22,000 European troops had broken the neck of the Mutiny before a single reinforcement arrived